

# The Next Chapter

SJC WELCOMES JACK P. CALARESO, PH.D.,  
AS OUR SEVENTH PRESIDENT, AND  
MRS. ROSE CALARESO AS OUR FIRST 'FIRST LADY'









## Farewell to the Class of 2014

Valedictorian Ginette Illuzzi '14 addresses her classmates at the Brooklyn Campus' 95th commencement exercises, held at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge on May 23.

Read more about Ginette and her family's SJC legacy on Page 38.

Photo by Robert Amsler



**Vol 12, No. 2**  
**Fall 2014**

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*SJCNY: St. Joseph's College Magazine* is published twice a year by the Office of Institutional Advancement, 1 Terry Street, Suite 2, Patchogue, NY 11772. The print edition of the magazine is mailed to alumni and friends of St. Joseph's College without charge. Our digital version is available at [magazine.sjcny.edu](http://magazine.sjcny.edu).

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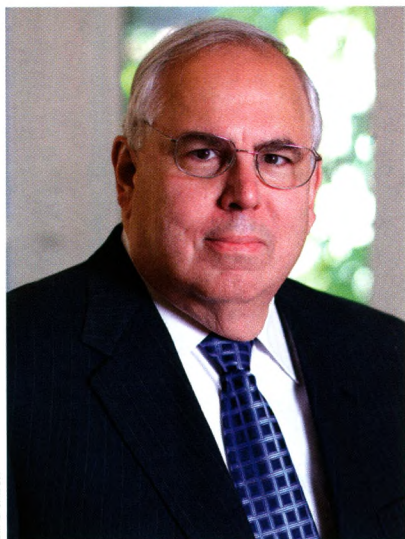
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A Message From  
**JACK P. CALARESO, Ph.D.**  
 PRESIDENT OF ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE



Bill Demson

“While so much  
 seems to be  
 changing at the  
 College, we are  
 very much the  
 same as we have  
 always been.”

I am honored to be writing to you for the first time as the seventh president of St. Joseph's College. In some ways, my presidency is a first for SJC. I am the first layperson to serve in this leadership role. With my wife, Rose, the College now has a first lady.

Please know that we are both excited and humbled to be a part of this great SJC community. It is a daunting challenge to follow in the footsteps of S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., an extraordinary leader and a wonderful person. We will do our best to carry forth her legacy in the tradition of the Sisters of St. Joseph and the almost century-long evidence of the highest quality educational experience rooted in core values that serve the common good.

As you read this issue of *SJCNY*, you will learn more about my background and experience, and the many ways Rose will contribute to the College. But you will also read about events and activities at the College that are part of the ongoing fabric of SJC. So while the College has a new president and first lady, it remains the same great institution we have all cherished for decades.

I must admit that I remember very little about a course I took as an undergraduate on British playwrights of the 19th century. In my defense, it was an 8 a.m. class, and it was over 40 years ago! However, what has remained with me over these past many years is a line from the play *The Second Mrs. Tanqueray* by Sir Arthur Wing Pinero. Pinero wrote, “I believe the future is only the past again, entered through another gate.”

I think this line captures well the focus of this edition of *SJCNY*. As you read the stories and look at the images, you will see that while so much seems to be changing at the College, we are very much the same as we have always been. The future of SJC in so many ways is really only the past again.

The students who enrolled at the newly founded St. Joseph's College in 1916 may have worn different clothes and had different hairstyles, but their success at this great institution was dependent on their hard work, the dedication of our faculty and staff, and the generosity of our friends and benefactors who financially supported programs and scholarships. Just like today's students — and tomorrow's students — these key ingredients are critical to the ability of so many of our students to be successful ... to have the opportunity for a St. Joseph's College education. In this issue you will read about women and men from different generations who have benefitted in the same way from their SJC experience. And this is our hope for the generations of students to come.

The truth of Pinero's quotation will be visually evident as you look at the images throughout the magazine. We are still graduating women and men of character and promise. We are still seeking ways to improve the curriculum, programs and services. We are still enhancing the campus environments in Brooklyn and Patchogue. Our greatest resource remains the dedicated faculty and the talented staff who serve our students every day.

As we begin the 99th year of St. Joseph's College, I thank you for your continued and abiding support of SJC. Thank you for what you have done in the past ... and what you will do in the future. We continue to look for great things at SJC, confident in the words of the Psalmist: “I delight to do thy will, O Lord, for I know Thy will for me is supreme good in my present and in my future.” (Psalms 40:8)

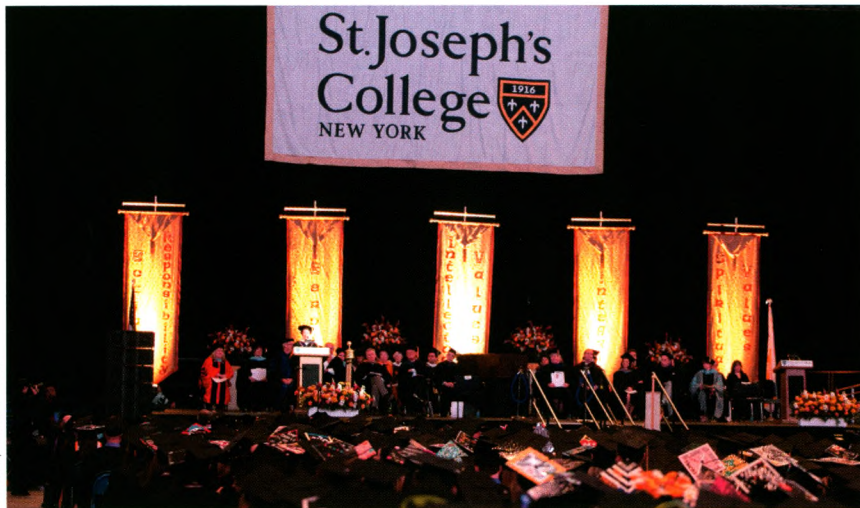
In the weeks to come, I look forward to meeting each of you in person. Please feel free to contact me at any time at [jcalareso@sjcny.edu](mailto:jcalareso@sjcny.edu) or 718.940.5902. ■



## “Your Life Will Matter”

St. Joseph's Celebrates 95th Commencement

Photos by Robert Ansler



The alumni of St. Joseph's College, already more than 30,000 strong, welcomed 1,541 new graduates to their ranks as the College celebrated its 95th commencement exercises last spring. The Brooklyn Campus ceremony was held on May 23 at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge, and was followed by the Long Island Campus ceremony at the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Uniondale on May 27.

Addressing the graduates at both events was one of their own, retiring President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J. — a member of the golden jubilee Class of 1964 — who delivered an uplifting message.

S. Elizabeth focused on the College's motto, *Esse non videri*, and what must be done to fulfill its meaning: “To be, not to seem.” She encouraged students to be honest, to understand themselves and their weaknesses and to stand up for their beliefs.

Drawing examples from the mottos of the Boy Scouts of America

(“Be prepared”) and the United States Marine Corps (*Semper fidelis* — “Always faithful”), as well as the wisdom of the Gospels, S. Elizabeth illustrated how our graduates can apply the College's motto to life after SJC.

“I think that if we take those three together, we find you get a formula for the kind of life a graduate of St. Joseph's College is called to live,” she said.

“If you choose to be prepared, to be faithful and not to be afraid, I am quite certain that you will have an amazing life. You will be able to do things that you can't imagine doing. You will touch lives. Your life will matter.”

S. Elizabeth received an honorary Doctor of Arts and Humane Letters.

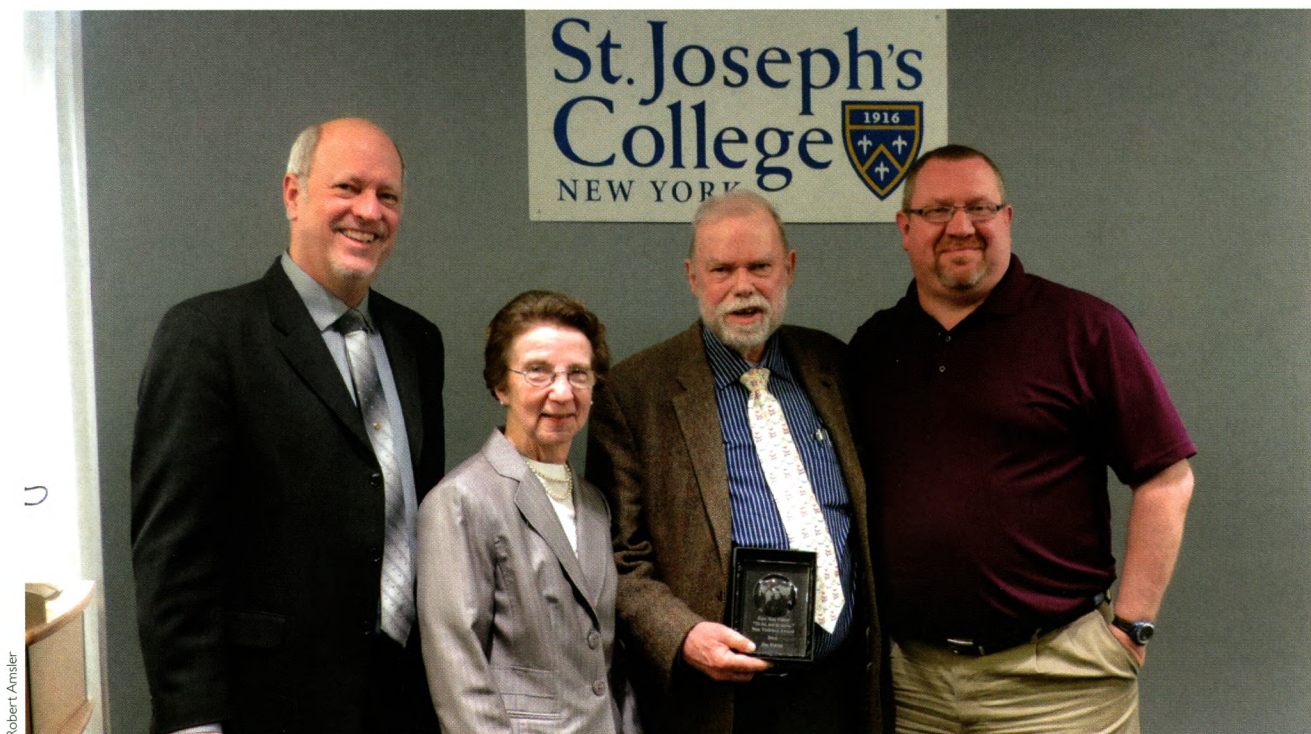
Receiving valedictory honors were Ginette Illuzzi (Brooklyn School of Arts and Sciences), retired Army Sgt. 1st Class Pearl Trent (Brooklyn School of Professional and Graduate Studies), Kristen Roedel (Long Island School of Arts and Sciences) and Colleen Klein (Long Island School of Professional and Graduate Studies). ■



*Clockwise from top: The Long Island Campus celebrates the Class of 2014 at the Nassau Coliseum; Long Island A&S Valedictorian Kristen Roedel; Brooklyn Valedictorians Pearl Trent and Ginette Illuzzi; Long Island PGS Valedictorian Colleen Klein.*



## Esse Non Videri Non-Violence Award Presented to Author Jim Forest



Long Island Campus Executive Dean Christopher Frost, Ph.D.; former President S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J.; award recipient Jim Forest; and Associate Professor Edward Vinski, Ph.D.

The Institute for the Study of Religion in Community Life, in conjunction with the St. Joseph's College Office of Campus Ministry, presented author and peace advocate Jim Forest with its annual *Esse Non Videri* Non-Violence Award.

While visiting the Long Island Campus for the April 2 award luncheon, Forest — the international secretary of the Orthodox Peace Fellowship and editor of its quarterly journal, *In Communion* — also hosted two lectures on the Rev. Thomas Merton, Catholic monk and social activist.

"In addition to being a global peacemaker and this year's *Esse Non Videri* Non-Violence Award recipient, Mr. Forest was a friend of [Father] Merton and can offer meaningful insight into his life's work," said Edward Vinski, Ph.D., associate professor of education.

One of the most influential Catholic authors of the 20th century, Merton wrote more than 60 books before his sudden death in 1968, including his best-selling autobiography, *The Seven Storey Mountain*.

The first of Forest's two lectures, "Thomas Merton's Advice to Peacemakers" was held on April 2, and the second lecture, "Who Was Thomas Merton and Why He Still Matters," took place on April 3.

Named after the College's motto, *Esse non videri* — "To be, not to seem" — the award is presented annually to individuals who exemplify compassion, social engagement and spirituality in the pursuit of social justice and peace. Recipients are chosen for their commitment to a nonviolent way of life and efforts toward bringing about peace, perhaps in an individual or personal

situation, or to the wider community or world.

At this year's luncheon, a surprise announcement was made that the award would henceforth be known as the Sister Elizabeth Hill *Esse Non Videri* Non-Violence Award, in recognition of her steadfast involvement in the causes of peace and social justice, including her early work as an immigration attorney and her anti-racism initiatives as president of St. Joseph's.

Past award recipients include Nobel Peace Prize nominee the Rev. John Dear, women's rights activist Homaira Mamoor, award-winning journalist Antoinette Bosco, peace activist S. Mary Fritz, Woodrow Wilson Fellow Janet Wallach and *Dead Man Walking* author S. Helen Prejean. Last year's honoree was Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and former *Newsday* columnist Bob Keeler. ■



## ACES Program Receives \$20K Grant From the TD Charitable Foundation

St. Joseph's College is pleased to announce that it has been awarded a \$20,000 grant from the TD Charitable Foundation, the charitable giving arm of TD Bank, to support its Academic Center for English Language Studies (ACES) program, located on the Brooklyn Campus.

Established in 2000, the ACES program was designed for high-achieving students who speak English as a second language. The program requires students to take an advanced reading and writing course that gives credit toward graduation, while focusing on theme-based teaching. The program also provides additional academic support, career counseling and tuition grants. Since its inception, the ACES program has served nearly 200 SJC students, many of whom have gone on to successful careers in neuroscience, dentistry, business management, accounting and education.

"St. Joseph's College is thrilled to receive this grant from the TD Charitable Foundation," said Mik Larson, director of ACES academic programs at SJC. "Without such generous support, we would not be able to provide the opportunities that we truly believe enrich our mission and the college experience for our students."

Funds from this grant will also allow the program to continue offering course-related field trips, as well as on-campus guest speakers and cultural events for its students. Past trips have included outings to prominent arts centers in New York City such as the Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Museum of Modern Art and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

The TD Charitable Foundation's mission is to serve the individuals, families and businesses in all the communities in which TD Bank operates. It has made \$118.9 million in charitable donations since its inception in 2002. ■

## SJC's 24th Annual Golf Classic Weathers the Storm



Long Island Campus Athletics Director **Shantey Hill**; Outstanding Student-Athlete Award winners **Julianne Tierney '15** and **Brian Werson '15**; former President **S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J.**; honoree and former Long Island Campus Athletic Director **Don Lizak**; award winners **David Louison '15** and **Kelly McNamee '14**; and Brooklyn Campus Athletics Director **Frank Carbone**.

More than 120 golfers enjoyed 18 holes at the Plandome Country Club during St. Joseph's 24th annual Golf Classic. Originally scheduled for June 9, the event was delayed three weeks by heavy rain, but went off without a hitch on June 23. The outing raised more than \$123,000 to benefit the College's athletic programs.

This year's honoree was Former Long Island Campus Athletic Director Don Lizak, who retired in 2013 after 19 years of service to the College. Lizak oversaw SJC's transition into a full-fledged NCAA Division III member in 1997.

Four students were presented with the 2014 Outstanding Student-Athlete Award: basketball star David Louison '15, the Bears' all-time leader in rebounds and blocks; Golden Eagles volleyball and softball captain Julianne Tierney '15; Long Island's Brian Werson '15, owner of 20 College records in track and cross-country; and Brooklyn's Kelly McNamee '14, an All-Conference selection in cross-country, tennis and basketball. ■



Visit [magazine.sjcnj.edu](http://magazine.sjcnj.edu) to read more about Golf Classic Honoree Don Lizak and our Outstanding Student-Athlete Award winners.



## Khatib 2014: Shi'ism and the Politics of the Hidden Imam

By Jennifer Joniak '15 • [jjoniak@student.sjcny.edu](mailto:jjoniak@student.sjcny.edu)



Robert Ansler

Georgianna Clifford Khatib '52; Mehdi Aminrazavi, Ph.D.; and Dr. Clifford Khatib.

St. Joseph's College was proud to host its sixth annual Khatib Chair lectures on April 3 on the Brooklyn Campus, and April 10 on the Long Island Campus. Each year, a noted scholar is selected as the Dr. Reza and Georgianna Clifford Khatib Chair in Comparative Religion, a position that is meant to promote communication among different faiths. This person has the honor of teaching a course for both campuses, as well as lecturing and engaging in discussions with the faculty. This year's chair, Mehdi Aminrazavi, Ph.D, presented a lecture titled "Shi'ism and the Politics of the Hidden Imam."

A professor of philosophy and religion and co-director of the Center for Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia, Aminrazavi detailed the foundation of Islam and Shi'ism, the minority Islamic sect. He explained the life of the prophet Muhammad, and how his death brought about a decision regarding succession that divided the Muslims into two sects: Sunni and Shia. Muhammad's cousin was decided to be the adequate successor because the Shia believe this person should be a direct relative of the prophet.

According to Aminrazavi, there are two sides of Shi'ism: the outward and the inward. The outward dimension is more legalistic, and is what is taught to all followers of Shia. The inward dimension was passed down for 12 generations and is taught to family of Muhammad. Shia is Messianic in nature, which means that its followers are waiting for the coming of the 12th Imam, called the *Mahdi*.

With this messianic belief arose differing opinions about the position of religious leaders in Shiite society. This became

a prominent issue during the early 16th century, when Iran made Shi'ism its official religion. During Muhammad's lifetime, while he was developing the tenets of Islam, he decreed that there were to be no distinctions among people, and no form of priesthood. However, when there is an official church of a nation, there needs to be an established clergy. The problems that arose were about what function the clergy would serve in Iranian society.

Aminrazavi explained the three viewpoints regarding the role of clergy. The first was a conservative belief, which said that in the messiah's absence, there is not much to do except follow the laws. An oppositional view believed that the messiah would not be arriving for a long time, so the clergy's job is to prepare for the messiah's coming. This view supported the clergy's political involvement in ensuring that everything necessary for the messiah's coming is done. The third side held the position that clergy should serve as moral guardians and have no political ties; their job is to make sure people follow the laws.

The father of the late Shah of Iran brought about secularized beliefs to the country and closed down seminaries in Iran. Between the 1920s and the late 1970s, all three ideologies about the role of the clergy resurfaced once again. Ayatollah Khomeini, in the late 1970s, believed that the clergy's job was to implement the laws, which pertained to all aspects of life.

The Iranian Revolution in 1979 led to the overthrowing of the Shah of Iran. Aminrazavi called this the "Iranian experiment." He explained that the three ideologies caused the discourse among the people. Throughout its history, Iran has been through different periods that determined how the country was led.

At the close of his lecture, Aminrazavi left time for audience questions. From that portion, he expressed his belief that the majority of young people in Iran are opposed to the government and want more open communication between the government and the people. Even though the people are opposed to the country's leadership, the power remains because "they have guns," whereas the Iranian citizens are unarmed. With regard to changing the society in Iran, Aminrazavi said that gradual reform is better than a revolution. He said that new people have to join the system and slowly bring about change.

Overall, Aminrazavi believed that with time, sanity and moderation will prevail in terms of conflict resolution. He also said that waiting for the "Hidden Imam" will be the predominant belief because people cannot expedite the will of God. When that idea is used for political gain, it only leads to conflict. ■



## News and Notes

### Biology

Department Chair **Frank Antonawich, Ph.D.**, presented a paper titled “Metabolic Anaplasia: A Target for Neoplastic Therapy” at the 10th International Conference on Integrative Oncology in Vancouver, British Columbia, last October. In June, his primary research article “Effect of Palladium-Lipoic Acid Complex on Energy in the Brain Mitochondria of Aged Rats” was published in *Alternative Therapies in Health and Medicine*.

**Michael J. Hanophy, Ph.D.**, attended the 21st Annual American Society for Microbiology Conference for Undergraduate Educators in Danvers, Massachusetts, where he gave a talk titled “Teaching about Controversy and Scientific Discourse Using the Primary Literature.” He also presented a poster, “Alexander Fleming and the Beginnings of Biofilm Research,” at the 114th Annual Conference of the American Society for Microbiology in Boston.

### Business Administration and Accounting

In May, **Thomas Horan** attended the 2014 Institute for Business and Finance Research (IBFR) global conference in Costa Rica, where he received the Best in Session Award for his presentation, “Hobby Loss or Business Loss: A discussion of the delineation of these two categories according to IRC code section 183.”

### Child Study

**Edgar Daniels, D.Arts**, has received a Doctor of Arts from Harrison Middleton University. As part of his capstone project, Daniels designed an authentic, applied project in which he created two courses: The Seven Deadly Sins Taught Through the Short Story, and Thinking Critically About Civic Engagement. Both are based upon The Great Books Foundation Shared Inquiry Method and aligned with the SJC 100 freshman program goals at St. Joseph's College.

Daniels and **Kathleen Cassidy** presented at the St. Joseph's College Technology-in-Education Conference in May. The title of their presentation was “Three Ways to Encourage Higher-Level Thinking in the Classroom.” Also in May, the pair presented at the New York State Middle School Association (NYSMSA) regional conference, Teaching for Tomorrow: Creatively Teaching the Common Core, which was hosted by SJC. The title of their presentation was “Enhancing Textual Analysis in the Common Core Using Synectics.”

**Karen Megay-Nespoli, Ed.D.**, presented “Differentiating Instruction for Gifted Learners: It's Not Just Different,” at the April 2014 Council for Exceptional Children Conference in Philadelphia. In addition, she was recently appointed to the board of directors for the Advocacy for Gifted and Talented Education (AGATE) in New York State. AGATE is a nonprofit organization that seeks to make available national, state and local resources, which contribute to the education and development of high-ability learners.

### English

**Thomas Grochowski, Ph.D.**, presented a paper, “I Serve Society by Rocking’: *School of Rock* and the Rhetoric of Dewey Finn,” at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association's national conference in Chicago in April.

**Susan Nakley, Ph.D.**, will be presenting a paper called “Sovereignty on the Rocks: Negotiating the Impossible in Chaucer's *Franklin's Tale*” at the Third Biennial Meeting of the BABEL Working Group, to be held at the University of California at Santa Barbara on October 16.

### Fine Arts

**Chris Vivas** was awarded the New York State Council on the Arts Long Island Creative Individuals Grant for the creation of ceramic sculptures.



Frank Antonawich, Ph.D.



Karen Megay-Nespoli, Ed.D.



Susan Nakley, Ph.D.





Peter Maust, Ph.D.

### History

**Phillip Dehne, Ph.D.**, published the article "How important was Latin America to the First World War?" in the March 2014 edition of the European history journal *Iberoamericana*. He also gave a series of presentations throughout the spring and summer, including "From Antagonists to Allies? Judging Anglo-American relations in Latin America during the Great War" at the Mid-Atlantic Conference of British Studies at Lehman College, New York (with a modified version at the Transatlantic Studies Association Conference in Ghent, Belgium); "Placing Latin America into Britain's global strategy" at the América Latina en la Gran Guerra Colloquium in Mexico City; and "Profiting despite the Great War: Argentina's Grain Multinationals" at the Armageddon and Mammon Conference in London.

**Peter Maust, Ph.D.**, has been awarded a Technology Fellowship to enhance his Civil War course. The fellowship has been established to identify meaningful projects that will positively impact student learning through technology. He is the Brooklyn Campus' first recipient of this award.

### Human Services

**K. Candis Best, J.D., Ph.D.**, traveled to Scottsdale, Arizona, in April to present her social learning platform,

Learninggateway, at the ASU + GSV Summit. Best also released her second book, *Your Genius Mind: Why You Don't Need to Be a College Graduate But You Do Need to Think Like One*, in June. "This is a book for those without a college degree," she says. "But it's also a book for those who have a college degree but not a college education. And this is a book for anyone and everyone who has ever believed in the potential of someone who did not see potential in themselves."

### Mathematics and Computer Science

**S. Jane Fritz, C.S.J.**, and **William McAllister** published *Programming Fundamentals Using Java: A Game Application Approach* in August. The book is based on research McAllister has performed over the last five years, and will change the way basic programming is taught.

**Victoria Hong** and **Lawrence Fischer** are the authors of *Visual Basic .NET: An Introduction to Computer Programming, 1st Edition*. The textbook was published this summer by Kendall Hunt Publishing Company.

**David Seppala-Holtzman, Ph.D.**, had an article published in *The College Mathematics Journal* titled "Ensperring Capped Prisms." A second article, "The Canonical Conical Function" is currently undergoing peer review. He gave a presentation at the May meeting of the New York Metro Section of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA), and oversaw an undergraduate research project, "Computerized Melody Recognition," by student Franky Rodriguez, who also presented at the MAA meeting in May.

### Nursing

**Laurel Janssen Breen, Ph.D., C.N.E.**, represents St. Joseph's College on the recently formed Long Island Health Collaborate (LIHC), which helps Long Islanders understand why prevention

and primary care are important, what resources and services are available and how these resources can be accessed.

**Michele H. Caccavano, D.N.P.**, presented her research in collaboration with J.T. Mather Memorial Hospital, titled "Phenotype of End-Stage Heart Failure Patients Requiring Palliative Care: A Method of Discharge Identification," at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York's Research Day.

**Sharon Friedman-Urerich, D.N.P.**, co-authored an abstract, "The Effect of IV (Methylprednisolone) on Glucose and Blood Pressure in MS Patients," which was published in the *International Journal of MS Care*.

**Florence L. Jerdan, Ph.D.**, co-authored a research article titled "Investigating the Impact of Blood Culture Bundles on the Incidence of Blood Culture Contamination Rates," which was published in the *Journal of Infusion Nursing*.

**Catherine Pearsall, Ph.D.**, recently co-authored three articles: "Becoming a Nurse Faculty Leader: Doing Your Homework to Minimize Risk-Taking," which was published in the *Journal of Professional Nursing*; "Becoming a Nurse Faculty Leader: Taking Risks by Doing the Right Thing," published in *Nursing Outlook*; and "Barriers and Strategies Toward the Implementation of a Distance Nurse Educator Role," published in *Nursing Education Perspectives*.

### Philosophy

**Michael Burke, Ph.D.**, presented two papers during the spring semester: "On Technology: Heidegger, Levinas and the Role of the Hand," at the 38th Annual Mid-South Philosophy Conference, held in February in Memphis, Tennessee; and "Hungry Eyes: Sartre and Levinas on the Look of the Other," at the Long Island Philosophical Society's 50th anniversary conference, held at Molloy College in Rockville Centre, New York, in April.



## Psychology

**Darsh Ramdass, Ph.D.**, and **Dominique Treboux, Ph.D.**, accompanied 22 students to Boston in March for the 2014 annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, 13 of whom gave presentations. Treboux was a co-presenter on four of the projects: "Stress Responses to Superstorm Sandy: Age, Gender and Distance," and "Pro-Social Behaviors in Response to Superstorm Sandy" (both co-authored by **Kirk Lawrence, Ph.D.**); "Reliability and Validity of Mobile Heart Rate Applications; and "Three Degrees of Separation: Differences in Emotional Reactions Between Genders" (co-authored by **Paul Ginnety, Ph.D.**). Ramdass was a co-presenter on "Examining Gender Differences on Final Grade, Homework and Self-Regulatory Behaviors."

In February, Lawrence and Treboux — along with students Christopher

Agoglia, Brandon Carbajal and Valerie Gelo — also presented two papers at the Eastern Sociological Association annual meeting in Baltimore: "Examining a 'Natural' Disaster: Using Statistics and GIS to Analyze the Social and Social-Psychological Impacts of Hurricane Sandy," and "Perceptions and Experiences of a 'Natural' Disaster: A Study of the Social and Social-Psychological Impacts of Hurricane Sandy."

## Social Sciences

**William Bengston, Ph.D.**, gave a number of presentations this academic year, including "Some Thoughts on Placebo Design," at Beech Tree Labs in Rensselaerville, New York (September 2013); "More Lessons from the Lab: An Update on Selected Healing Experiments," at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina (April 2014); "Testable Propositions from Anomalous Healing Research," at Princeton University in New Jersey

(April 2014); and "Some Replications of Bernard Grad's McGill University Healing Experiments," at the Society for Scientific Exploration annual meeting in San Francisco (June 2014).

**Mirella Landriscina, Ph.D.**, has been awarded the inaugural S. Mary Florence Award for Teaching Excellence and Impact. She was unanimously recommended by a committee of four faculty members.

**Stephen Rockwell, Ph.D.**, has agreed to write the entry on "The Size of Government" for *American Governance*, a reference work to be published in print and online by Macmillan.

## Spanish

**María Montoya, Ph.D.**, presented a paper, "Against Oblivion: The Balkan Wars in Contemporary Spanish Narrative" at the 13th International Conference of Hispanic Literature in Cartagena, Colombia, in March. ■

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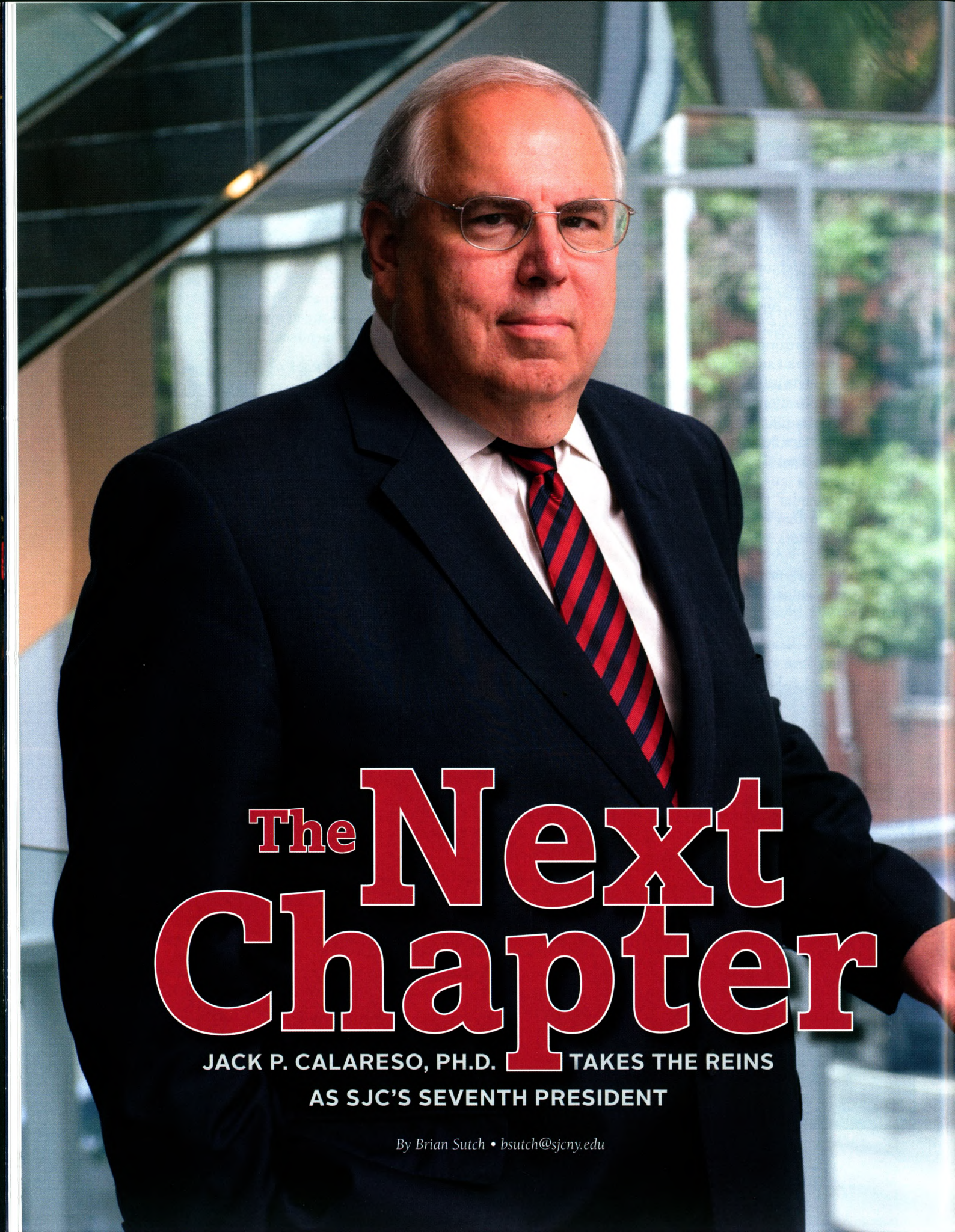
NEWS

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CHECK OUT THE ALL-NEW SJCNY.EDU




A portrait of Jack P. Calareso, Ph.D., a middle-aged man with glasses, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and a red and blue striped tie. He is standing in front of a large glass window that looks out onto a green campus scene. The text "The Next Chapter" is overlaid on the bottom half of the image in a large, red, serif font with a white outline.

# The Next Chapter

JACK P. CALARESO, PH.D. TAKES THE REINS  
AS SJC'S SEVENTH PRESIDENT

*By Brian Sutch • [bsutch@sjcnj.edu](mailto:bsutch@sjcnj.edu)*





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**He may be new to St. Joseph's College, but Jack P. Calareso, Ph.D., is certainly no stranger to the world of higher education. Nor is he unfamiliar with the particulars of SJC — a small, private college, steeped in the Catholic tradition and committed to providing an affordable education for all students.**

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On the contrary, Calareso has crafted a long and distinguished career in exactly this kind of setting.

Having served as president of three similar institutions — Briar Cliff University in Sioux City, Iowa; Ohio Dominican University in Columbus, Ohio; and most recently Anna Maria College in Paxton, Massachusetts — he brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his newest endeavor: president of St. Joseph's College.

Stepping in for the recently retired S. Elizabeth A. Hill, C.S.J., Calareso is the seventh to hold that distinction, but the College's first male president since Monsignor William T. Dillon's departure in 1955, and the first layperson to lead SJC since its founding in 1916.

"My entire professional career has been in sectarian institutions," he says, "so I believe that I understand the mission, I understand the history, I understand the values.

"I think the role of a president is to model the values of the institution. My responsibility is to make sure, through my words and through my actions, that people understand the meaning of St. Joseph's College — its history, its tradition."

He cites the growing number of Catholic colleges and universities who have recently moved away from their longstanding traditions of religious leadership. One example is Georgetown University, which inaugurated its first lay president in 2001, after 47 priests (43 of whom were Jesuits) held the post since 1791.

"To defend laypeople as leaders, I think there are lots of laypeople who didn't have a vocation to the priesthood or to religious life, but have a deep and abiding faith. Maybe I'll work harder at it because I think it's a part of the identity I need to especially focus on."

---

Calareso's career as an educator has taken him through Wisconsin, New York, Iowa, Ohio and Massachusetts. So where does such a well-traveled person truly hang his hat?

"I was born and raised in Boston. I don't *pahk my cah* anymore," he explains, briefly summoning his dormant accent, "but I consider that home. "I went to school there. My undergraduate education was there, my time at Merrimack College [as vice president of academic affairs] was in the Boston area, and my time at Anna Maria, but I've been away more than I've been home."

At face value, the well-traveled Calareso may appear a stark contrast to his predecessor, S. Elizabeth, whose career spanned 30-plus years at St. Joseph's College — including 17 as president — but Calareso advocates a slightly different approach to college administration.

"If you look at my whole career, I think when you're the president of a small college, it's a very intense kind of leadership; it's very hands on," he says.

"It doesn't mean that presidents of big universities don't have big challenges, but it's a

**"My responsibility is to make sure, through my words and through my actions, that people understand the meaning of St. Joseph's College — its history, its tradition."**



different kind of challenge. I think when you've been there five, six, seven years, you really reach a point when you've done everything you feel you can do for that institution and it's probably time for a new challenge, both for the institution and for the president. For me, it's also a chance to kind of get re-energized and work with a new college community."

Now, at age 63, however, Calareso appears ready to settle down. "This is most definitely my last presidency," he says unequivocally.

He will indeed have his work cut out for him here in New York. St. Joseph's, like so many other small liberal-arts colleges across the country, has plenty of hurdles to overcome as it moves into its second century, including declining enrollment, shifting demographics and uncertain revenues.

"[Small colleges] are always fighting that budget crunch," Calareso says. "The pressure is that you don't have a state subsidy, you don't have a huge endowment — you don't have the kind of resources that allow you to weather bad years."

"It's a high-wire act. It's exhilarating when the Flying Wallendas get to the other side, but when you're in the middle, it's a challenge."

According to a 2013 study by Moody's Investor Services, tuition-dependent colleges such as St. Joe's are the most vulnerable to potential declines in tuition revenue, which already accounts for nearly 91 percent of the College's annual operating income (as of June 2013).

In the months and years ahead, Calareso will look to increase revenue through gifts and private and government grants, and to increase enrollment through continual expansion of the College's academic offerings. In the past two years, SJC has introduced a B.A. in Journalism and New Media Studies, an M.F.A. in Creative Writing and a B.S. in Hospitality and Tourism Management. Also on the horizon is the addition of a B.S. in Nursing program — a field projected to grow at a faster-than-average rate by the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics — and the opening of the Brooklyn Campus' new 44,000-square-foot athletic facility later this year.

One of the most important elements of Calareso's job going forward will be to uphold St. Joseph's longstanding tradition of providing an affordable liberal arts education for all students regardless of their diverse backgrounds.

"The fact of the matter is that students who come to St. Joseph's College are transformed by this institution," he





says. "They may not have the same resources and luxuries as students of other institutions, but they're looking for this education to provide them with an opportunity to go out in the world and do something great, for their lives to be better than their parents' lives and to make the world a better place."

Over the several months leading up to July 1, his first day as president, Calareso has been constantly interacting with S. Elizabeth, who began her retirement on June 30. "She's been phenomenal," he says. "She's been the most gracious, hospitable person I've met in a long time. She's opened her office to me, she's welcomed me, she's given me a great deal of background information. She's tried very hard not to tell me what to do, but to give me the sense of understanding the culture so that, hopefully, I will know what's best for SJC."

"She's not going to be far away. ... I see her as an ongoing adviser and a valued colleague. She knows the community, both internal and external. It's a real luxury, and a great benefit to me and the College, to have someone like her as a resource."

Calareso and his wife, Rose, recently moved into a new home in Clinton Hill, only a few minutes walk from the Brooklyn Campus. The couple, who celebrated their 42nd wedding anniversary in July, met in an unlikely place:

"Rose went to school in Chicago at Loyola University — back then the all-girls school was called Mundelein," he explains. "I was at Boston College, and we and both studied in Rome, Italy, for our junior years. She's from Kansas, so the chance of a Boston kid meeting a girl from Kansas was pretty remote."

The pair clearly made the most of their serendipitous meeting. Today, they have three grown children — Jack Jr., 40; Anne Marie, 37; and Jeffrey, 35 — and four grandchildren: Josie, Paxton, Dominic and Rivers. Rose recently retired as a library media specialist for the Sudbury Public School system in Massachusetts, and Anne Marie was married on July 5.

The Calaresos are looking forward to exploring their new environment in New York. As avid fans of symphony, opera and theater, they will no doubt have plenty of opportunities to take in the culture of New York.

Most importantly, though, Dr. Calareso is looking forward to interacting with students and faculty, and getting to know the community.

"The intellectual capital of the faculty, and the students' energy and desire to learn, form this community of scholars and learners," he says, "and that's what higher education is about. That's what I am most excited about — meeting alumni and friends in the community — and working collaboratively with the students, the faculty and the staff. I know that we will continue to do great things at SJC." ■







# Introducing: I

Dr. Calareso is the first layperson to be named president of St. Joseph's College, and his appointment also leads us to another milestone: our first "first lady."

Rose Calareso has been by Jack's side through every one of his previous stops as an educator and college administrator, and has often played an active role as an unofficial college ambassador at on-campus and alumni events and social functions.

SJCNY sat down with Mrs. Calareso on July 9 — one day after the couple's 42nd wedding anniversary — to learn more about ...

## HER CAREER

"I have been a library media specialist for the Sudbury [Massachusetts] Public Schools for the past seven years. Prior to that, I held the same position for five years with the Gahanna-Jefferson Public Schools in Ohio, and for two years with the Sioux City Community School District in Iowa. I was a classroom teacher for many years and have also served as the Curriculum Librarian at the College of St. Rose in Albany, New York, for three years.

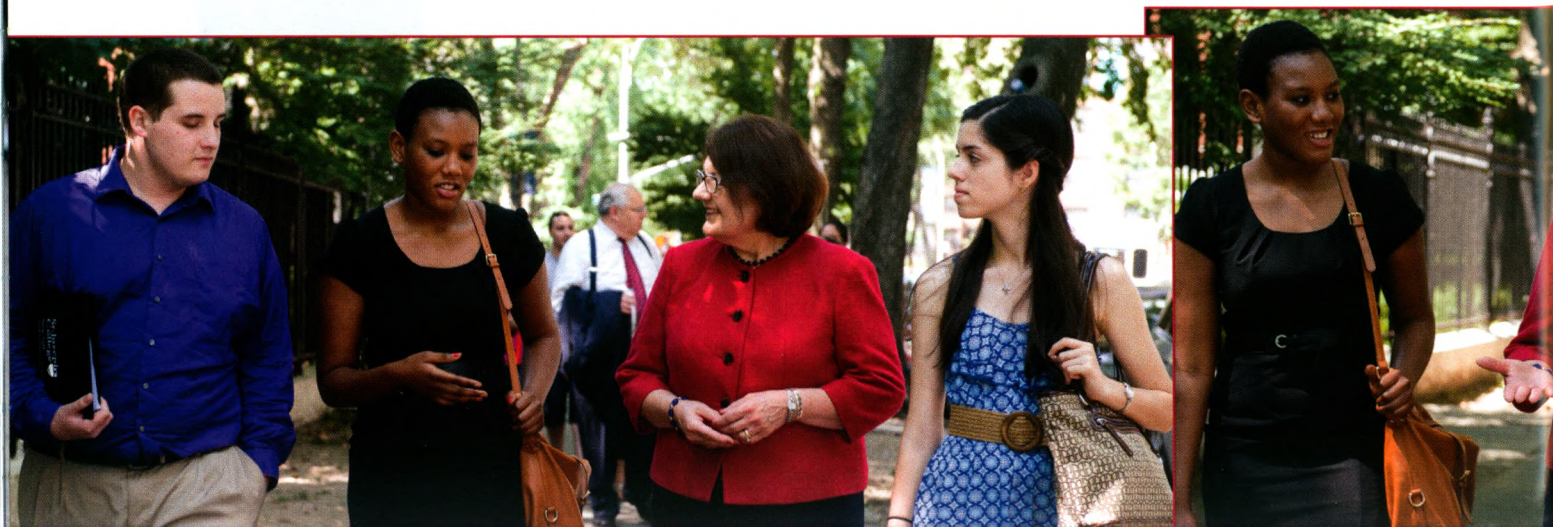
"My career plans are indefinite at this time — I hope to search for some type of gainful employment related to my profession once we are settled in New York."

## COMING TO ST. JOSEPH'S

"I am honored to be the first 'first lady' at St. Joseph's College! My hope is to be involved in the same type of campus activities as at our previous colleges. It will be an evolving role dependent on the particular needs of St. Joseph's. As always, I hope to support the mission of this college in any way possible."

## BEING THE SPOUSE OF A COLLEGE PRESIDENT

"A college president has a very challenging and time-consuming position. I think any loving spouse would hope to be supportive, patient and understanding. As a presidential spouse for 15 years, I have enjoyed observing and participating in my husband's successes in his work very much. I have also appreciated the opportunities to meet so many interesting people. The toughest parts have been saying 'goodbye' to friends at places where we've been."





# Mrs. Rose Calareso

## HER FAVORITE PLACES TO LIVE

"I truly have been able to find something to enjoy anywhere we've lived. My favorite place is usually wherever we are at the time. I've been blessed to have been able to make friends and find employment in all of the places we've lived. Of course, I've especially enjoyed living in the Boston area because of the proximity to at least one of our three children."

## HER THOUGHTS ON NEW YORK

"My impression of New York is very positive so far. I found the St. Joseph's College community to be very welcoming and kind, both on Long Island and in Brooklyn. Of course, the cultural opportunities that New York City presents are very appealing."

"The most significant change to my daily life will be very welcomed: I anticipate doing a lot of walking instead of driving! I will also have to adapt to living in a city apartment as opposed to suburban living with lots of lovely green space outside my windows. I won't be waking up to the sound of mourning doves where we will be living in New York!"

## HER PERSONAL GOALS

"My main goal for the next year will be to learn all that I can about the St. Joseph College community and to become a contributing member of this community. I also hope to increase my knowledge of Brooklyn and Long Island."

## HER HOBBIES AND INTERESTS

"I enjoy spending time with my husband and our family most of all. I am an avid reader. Visiting with friends, playing golf, using technology, playing the piano — these are some of my favorite things!"

## HER FAMILY

"Our daughter and her new husband are in the Boston area, so we will be much farther from them. Our eldest son and his family are in the Albany area. We will actually be farther from them, but at least there will be the option of traveling by train for visits. Our youngest son and his family just moved to California (Silicon Valley), so still quite a distance away."

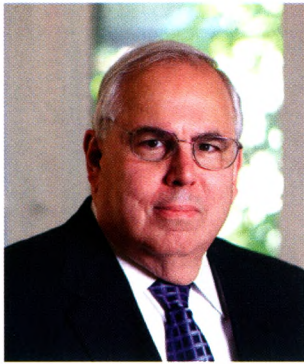
"I am hopeful that all of our children and grandchildren will visit us in New York. Our eldest son lived in Carroll Gardens and worked on Jay Street out of law school — he and our daughter-in-law are most excited to be returning to Brooklyn to visit us. They were married at St. Mary Star of the Sea [in Brooklyn] and lived near Prospect Park."

## WHAT WE CAN EXPECT FROM DR. CALARESO

"My husband is someone who leads with vision and compassion. He is a very dedicated and hard-working leader who has the ability to assess situations and determine if anything needs to be done to make things better. He sets very high goals for himself and for those around him, and is willing and able to make difficult decisions. He is collaborative in decision-making. I think our three children would confirm that we had many 'family meetings' through the years so that everyone's voices could be heard when decisions had to be made. I think that the College community can expect a leader who will serve with great faith and hope for the future." ■







## DR. CALARESO AT A GLANCE

**Born:** March 6, 1951

**Hometown:** Boston, Massachusetts

### FAMILY

**Wife:** Rose Calareso

**Children:** Jack Jr., Anne Marie and Jeffrey

**Grandchildren:** Josie, Paxton, Dominic and Rivers

### CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

#### Anna Maria College

Paxton, Massachusetts  
2007-2014

*President and professor of education*

#### Ohio Dominican University

Columbus, Ohio  
2001-2007

*President and professor of education*

#### Briar Cliff University

Sioux City, Iowa  
1999-2001

*President and professor of education*

#### Merrimack College

North Andover, Massachusetts  
1996-1999

*Vice president for academic affairs and professor of education*

#### The College of Saint Rose

Albany, New York  
1989-1996

*Vice president for academic affairs/provost, dean of the school of education, professor of education*

#### The Catholic Diocese of Green Bay

Green Bay, Wisconsin  
1982-1989

*Superintendent of schools and director of education*

#### Blessed Sacrament School

Madison, Wisconsin  
1977-1982

*Teacher and principal*

#### St. Ambrose Parish

Rochester, New York  
1972-1977

*Teacher, assistant principal, director of religious education*

### EDUCATION

#### The Harvard Seminar for Experienced Presidents

Harvard University  
Cambridge, Massachusetts, 2008

#### Ph.D., Educational Leadership & Administration

Marquette University  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1989

#### M.A., Theology and Scripture

St. Bernard's School of Theology  
Rochester, New York, 1977

#### B.A., English and Theology

Boston College  
Boston, Massachusetts, 1972

## THE PRESIDENTS OF ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE

**1916-1921**

**Bishop Charles E. McDonnell, D.D.**



As head of the Diocese of Brooklyn, Bishop McDonnell presided over the College's founding by the Sisters of St. Joseph in 1916, and served as chair of the board of trustees. Though he did not play an active role in the College's administration, he held the title of president of the College, and was recognized as such by the earliest students.

**1921-1945**

**Archbishop Thomas E. Molloy, Ph.D., S.T.D.**



Dr. Molloy, as he was called, was the College's first professor of philosophy. He was elected to the board of trustees in 1918, and as the third bishop of the Diocese of Brooklyn, he held the title of president of the College from 1921 to 1945. He was beloved by the students, and held in especially high regard by the classes of 1916-1921.

**1945-1955**

**Monsignor William T. Dillon, J.D., LL.D.**



Monsignor Dillon succeeded Bishop Molloy as professor of philosophy, and in 1925 was elected to the board of trustees. As dean and later president, he emphasized student initiative and government, introduced the Honor System, co-founded the national honor society Delta Epsilon Sigma, and established the preschool now known as the Dillon Child Study Center.



## 2014-2015: AN INAUGURAL YEAR OF CELEBRATION

The inauguration of Jack P. Calareso, Ph.D., as our seventh president marks a new beginning for St. Joseph's College.

Typically, an inauguration focuses solely on one individual, the new president. Dr. Calareso has decided to take a different approach and turned the focus back on the entire College. He recognizes and appreciates that a successful college is more than the work of one leader. It takes an entire community to change the lives of thousands of students every day, every year, since 1916. This is reason to celebrate the entire St. Joseph's College community.

St. Joseph's is proud of the five core values that define the College: Intellectual and spiritual values, social responsibility, integrity and service. These values form the common language unique to St. Joseph's College. These five core values will come alive through a series of events and projects throughout the coming year. Each event will celebrate both a value of SJC and the people who live out these values every day.

The Sisters of St. Joseph paved the way and created a college committed to academic excellence and the common good. In honor of their extraordinary gifts throughout the decades, and the bright future that lies ahead, the entire community will come together to celebrate this new chapter in the life of SJC with an Inaugural Mass, to be held on Sunday, October 5, at the Sisters of St. Joseph's Sacred Heart Chapel in Brentwood (see ad on Page 41). All students, faculty, staff and alumni are invited to attend.

Together, we stand side by side with President and Mrs. Calareso, ready to serve the needs of our students and the community.



### 1956-1969\*

**S. Vincent Thérèse Tuohy, C.S.J., Ph.D.**



Confronted with the need for additional facilities, S. Vincent Thérèse established the first development office and launched SJC's first capital campaigns. These resulted in the construction of

McEntegart Hall in 1965 and the Dillon Child Study Center in 1968. Additional property was purchased on Waverly Avenue in 1969.

### 1969-1997

**S. George Aquin O'Connor, C.S.J., Ph.D.**



SJC's longest-tenured president, S. George spearheaded a dramatic overhaul of the curriculum, the College's transition to a co-educational institution, its expansion into Suffolk County in 1971, the development of programs for adults, and the purchase of the present Long Island Campus in 1977. Callahan Library opened in 1988 and the John A. Danzi Athletic Center in 1997.

### 1997-2014

**S. Elizabeth A. Hill '64, C.S.J., J.D.**

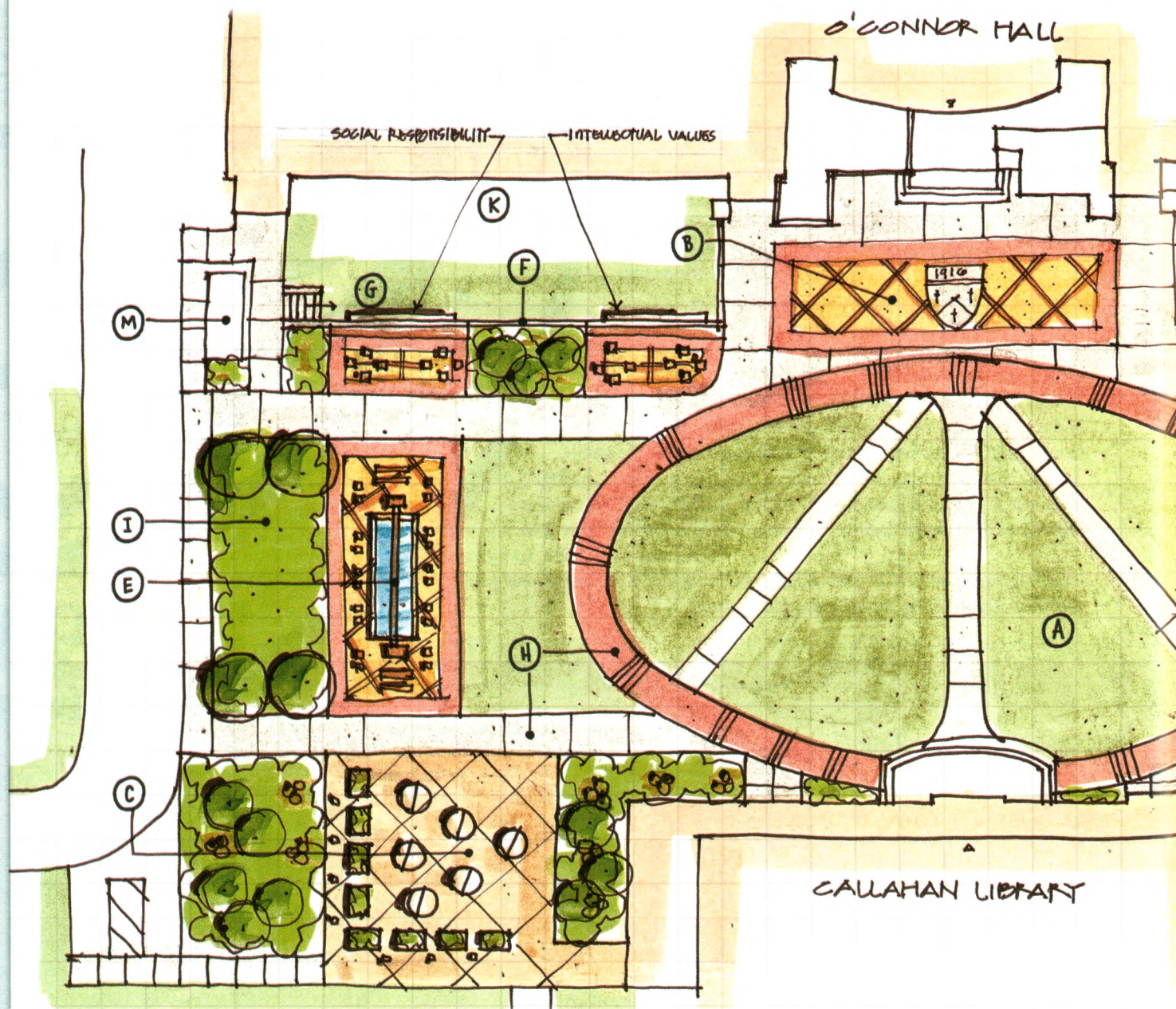


S. Elizabeth presided over the expansion of both campuses: in Brooklyn, the purchase of 256 Clinton Avenue and St. Angela Hall, and the construction of the new gym; and on Long Island, the construct of the Business Technology Center and the 24-acre Outdoor Field Complex. She also secured a \$4 million bequest to endow scholarships for students in need.

\*Monsignor Francis X. Fitzgibbon served as an interim president in 1955-1956.

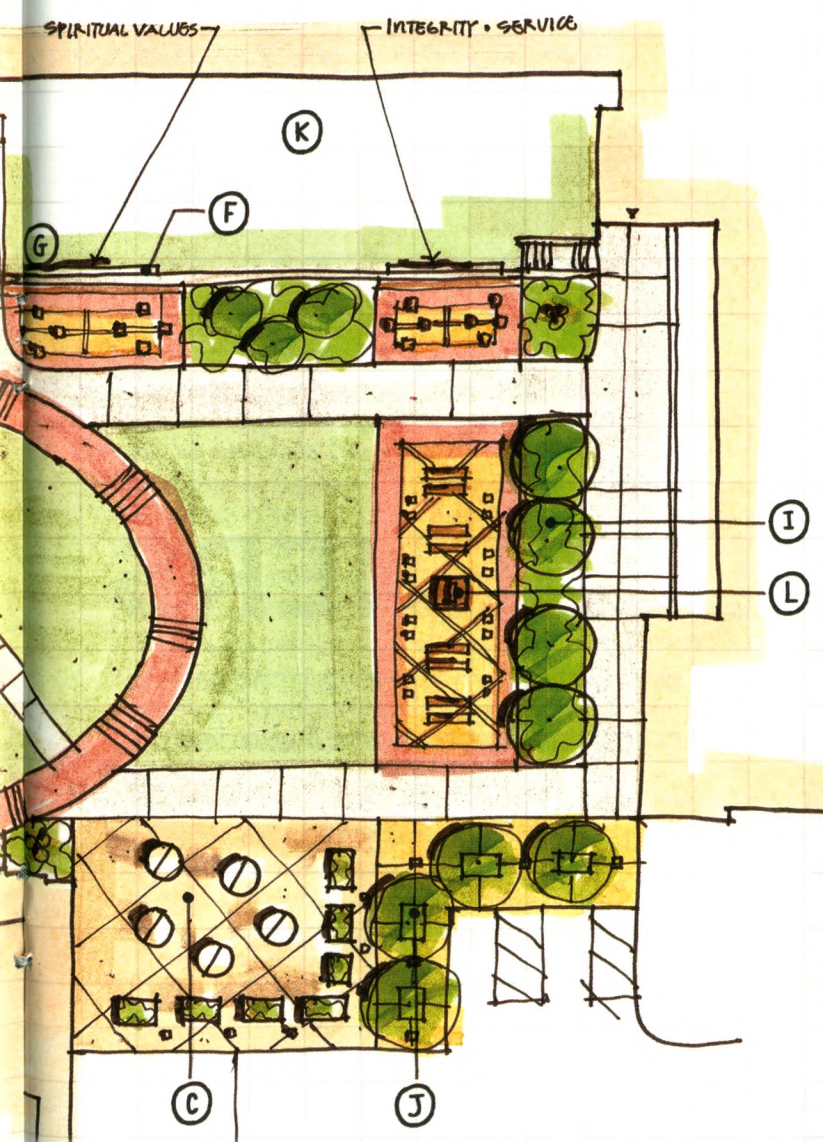


"MEET ME ON TH





# THE QUAD"



## BIG CHANGES IN STORE FOR LONG ISLAND CAMPUS

Thanks to a \$1 million gift from an anonymous donor, St. Joseph's Long Island Campus will be getting a major facelift in the very near future. The quad area between O'Connor Hall and the Callahan Library is slated for a complete overhaul, including the addition of a central plaza, courtyards and seating areas, a reflecting pool, extensive decorative planters and landscaping and a bus shelter, as well as improved lighting and signage campuswide.

Pedestrian traffic and open spaces will be redesigned to create a more beautiful and welcoming campus experience for the entire SJC community.

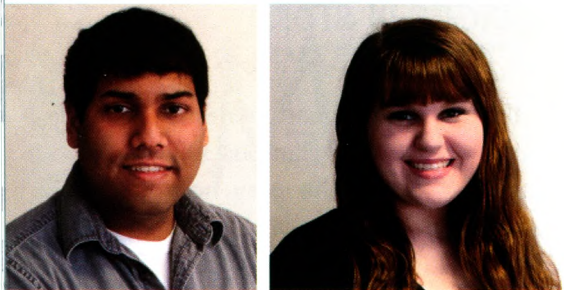
Pending all necessary permits and approvals, the College will break ground in May, with work scheduled to be completed in time for the 2015-2016 academic year.

If you would like to contribute to this project or fund a new capital improvement on either campus, please visit [giving.sjcny.edu](http://giving.sjcny.edu).

## LEGEND

- A. Lawn Area
- B. Central Plaza
- C. Courtyard
- D. Seating Areas
- E. Water Feature/Decorative Arch
- F. Retaining/Seat Wall
- G. College Values
- H. Walkways
- I. Decorative Plantings
- J. Entrance Treatment
- K. Lower Lawn Area
- L. Interactive Kiosk
- M. Bus Shelter





# A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS

The Long Island and Brooklyn honors programs provide students with an exemplar of academic, social and experiential learning

*By Jennifer Joniak '15 • [jjoniak@student.sjcny.edu](mailto:jjoniak@student.sjcny.edu)*



## Are you interested in the honors program?

If so, please check the box. ☒

**T**hat checkbox on the St. Joseph's College undergraduate application is something often overlooked by high school seniors. Some will think that "honors" means more work or hard classes, and will skip over the box without giving it a second thought. Others will check it emphatically, prepared to continue their tradition of high school honors or Advanced Placement (AP) coursework.

For a student to qualify for the honors program, he or she must first be accepted into the College. The student must also have a minimum 1200 SAT score (math and verbal sections) or 26 ACT score. His or her high school GPA must be 90 or higher unweighted, and there is a required essay expressing interest in the program that is reviewed by the committee.

The honors program on the Long Island Campus is a community that creates an environment primed for higher-level learning. "[It] provides students with a supportive and nurturing environment from the start of their college experience," said Noelle Eichenlaub '16.

The program is a three-semester sequence that is open only to freshmen (transfer students are not eligible to participate at this time). The rationale behind this is not to be exclusive; it is so accepted students can complete their core classes for freshmen while simultaneously building relationships among the participants.

"The goal of the honors program is to bring together like-minded individuals, and in doing this, we all become friends and grow together, both academically and socially, as a learning community," said Emma Tapada '15.

Students have a built-in support system in each other as they take courses together during the program. "When preparing for our exams, the other honors students and I would edit each other's papers. We wanted to help each other succeed," Eichenlaub said. "There is nothing more exciting than being encouraged by a group of like-minded individuals."

### WHAT IT TAKES

The first semester of the program acts as the basis for bonding the participants and providing them with the opportunity to get to know each other. "It's like gaining 10 or so best friends right off the bat," said Anthony Sementilli '15.

All of the courses in the honors program are designed so that they do not overlap with high school AP classes. They are in different core areas and are not necessarily more difficult than any other college course; the honors designation is indicative of the quality of learning and the community in which it occurs.

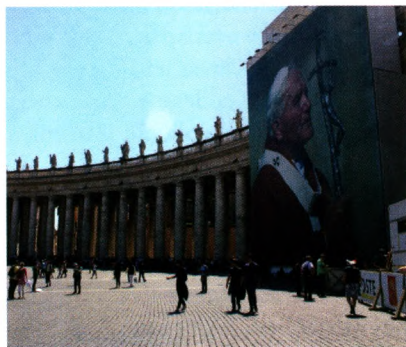
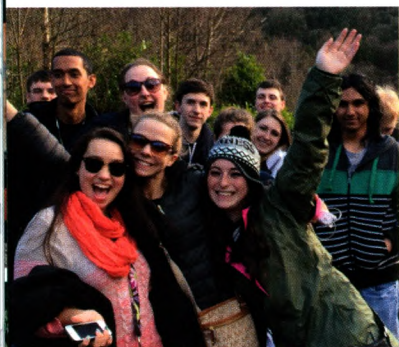
Honors freshmen take three courses together their first semester. One is the required Freshman Seminar, of which there are two sections led by honors program faculty members. The other two classes could be in English, philosophy, art, history or political science.

In the second semester, when students are beginning classes geared toward their majors, there are only two required honors classes. One of these courses may be an interdisciplinary class with more than one professor, such as Food in the Global Community or The Ancient World. The courses continue to engage the students in dynamic learning activities and expand their knowledge across disciplines.

The third and final semester of the honors program, the fall of sophomore year, is one of the most exciting for honors students. This is when they take a capstone class that is related to an optional study abroad trip in the following spring semester. The capstone class is a series of lectures the students attend during common hour related to the culture of their trip location. It allows students to learn about where they will be going and what they can expect once abroad.

Past honors trips have taken students to Washington, D.C., or abroad to European destinations including France, Ireland, the Czech Republic, Poland and Italy. The trip is a highly recommended aspect of the program, and to make it easier for students to attend, the College covers 50 percent





of the cost. In the spring of sophomore year, students pack their bags and depart for their trip abroad. This opportunity cements friendships and lets the students explore the world together. Honors faculty members lead the trip, and students are taken to museums and historical places of interest. There is also time for students to go off in small groups after their tours so they can experience the culture on their own. "My trip to Italy was the greatest experience of my life, and I would give anything to do it again," Tapada said. After returning home from the trip, the students prepare a presentation about their travel experience to share with other honors students and the larger campus community.

### WHERE IT LEADS

Even after the trip is over and the program officially ends, honors students never fully "finish" the program. All of the friendships that have formed over these two years stay with the students.

"Even after our capstone trip to Rome and Florence, we make sure that we find each other on campus, despite our hectic schedules and different majors," Sementilli said. "I

don't think many other programs instill the same level of solidarity among its members."

In addition to maintaining the friendships facilitated by the honors program, honors students take their time to share their love of the program with potential incoming students. Honors students can be found volunteering at open houses and the annual admitted student reception, where they spend time with philosophy professor and Honors Program Coordinator Wendy Turgeon, Ph.D., answering questions about the benefits of the program and its requirements.

Two years ago, some of the honors students had an idea about creating a support system for incoming honors freshmen to offer them guidance and answer any last-minute questions before they begin classes. This idea developed into a Big Brother/Big Sister program that pairs an upperclassman honors student with an incoming honors freshman. The upperclassman contacts his or her freshman before orientation and helps the student throughout the semester.

The Long Island honors program is a meaningful experience for all of its participants. Though it is only a two year program now, optional opportunities are in the works to expand the program beyond sophomore year, including 1-credit seminars on a range of topics, an honors program thesis presentation program, among other ideas.

### A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITIES

Students on the Brooklyn Campus experience the honors program in a vastly different manner. Requirements to be accepted into the program are similar to those on the Long Island Campus, and include a combined SAT score of at least 1100, a minimum GPA of 90, a personal essay and a letter of recommendation. Once in the program, students must maintain a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

The program spans all four years instead of just two, and students are required to take four honors courses over this time. Two of the four must be honors courses specifically designed for honors students, one of which is an honors section of the freshman seminar, SJC 100.

Another course that may satisfy this requirement is Art and Architecture in Western Europe, which is available to students in their junior and senior years. This course has an optional travel component, to which the College contributes half the cost.

"This summer, as part of the honors program, I was able to study art in France," Rose Aime '14 said. "It was, by far, one of the most unforgettable times of my life. I gained the



rare opportunity to truly immerse myself in another culture and appreciate all it had to offer.”

The majority of honors courses are 1-credit seminars that meet for eight weeks during the semester. The other two courses may be honors options added to any liberal arts course. If a student chooses to do an honors option, he or she must submit an honors project that is equivalent to 14 classroom hours.

“SJC’s honors program not only recognizes the importance of academic excellence; it also recognizes the importance of diversity and cultural awareness,” Aime said. “For that, I am truly grateful.”

Each semester, honors students are required to attend three events: two academic and one cultural. The academic events may be on-campus lectures by professors, student-run debates, or a Brooklyn Voices event. Cultural events take advantage of the College’s proximity to New York City. “I joined the honors program because I wanted the extra challenge in college, and the free trips around the city did not hurt, either,” Kevin Pruna ’15 said.

Past cultural trips have taken students to Dialogue in the Dark, the Tenement Museum, and guided tours of the Bronx Zoo, the Coney Island Aquarium and the Brooklyn Botanic Garden. “Although I have lived in New York for my whole life, there are places I’ve never seen and many things I’ve never experienced in this great city,” Aime said.

“The honors program afforded me the opportunity to engage in unique experiences that I would have otherwise never gone to on my own.”

At the end of the semester, the students must submit an essay about one of the three events he or she attended.

The Brooklyn honors program provides students with the opportunity to take a leadership role in the program. There are four students who become honors officers each year to help select and organize events. They also coordinate meetings and maintain communication with honors faculty and students.

At the end of the program, the students are required to present their senior thesis at an honors symposium. They prepare a poster board about their topic and make a three to four minute presentation in front of their peers. For students whose majors do not require a thesis, they are still required to present thesis-level work at the symposium.

New developments are in the works for Brooklyn honors students. An annual honors seminar for program freshmen has been started, in which the students choose a location, do

research on a variety of its historical and cultural aspects, and travel together for a weekend. “This year the honors program sponsored a freshman honors trip to Washington, D.C., in which the students organized the trip themselves, and it was by far my favorite experience being in the program,” Victoria Benalcazar ’17 said.

“After stressful planning, it was rewarding to be immersed in all the culture and history that D.C. has to offer ... I don’t know when I would have had this type of opportunity otherwise.”

Soon there will also be a required service component to the program, in which honors students will have the opportunity to team up with organizations in Brooklyn to engage in different community service projects. The new additions to the program are the work of the honors committees headed by philosophy professor and Honors Program Coordinator Michael Burke, Ph.D.

“The honors program is superbly run with the help of Dr. Burke, and he has really been on the forefront of further improving the program,” Pruna said. “The school is going in a better direction as it is utilizing its honors students and pushing them to their full potential.” ■





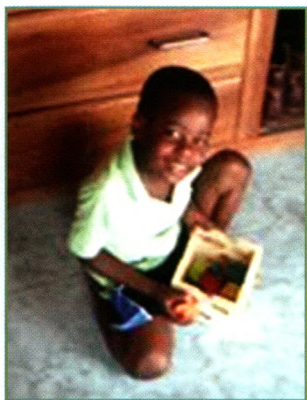


# A MOTHER'S CALLING



## Keisha Allsop-Harsey '11 helps parents searching for the missing piece of the puzzle

By Brittany Jenkins '14



Not many people can manage to keep a positive perspective through overwhelming odds and use hardships in life as an opportunity to change their lives for the better, but Keisha Allsop-Harsey '11 fits the bill.

Born in 1976 in the island nation of Trinidad and Tobago, she has been living in the United States since 1988 and graduated from St.

Joseph's Brooklyn Campus.

"I chose St. Joseph's because it was very homey to me. It gave me what I needed: small classes, professors I loved and a degree I really wanted," Keisha said.

She is married to Basha Abuoumam Harsey, with whom she has four children — Rickey, Zamaan, Ketura and Ibrahim — and two stepchildren, Iman and Sultan. Although the couple lived together in New York for a period of time, they decided it would be best to raise their children in Ghana, where Basha was born.

"We wanted the children to experience the culture and general respect for mankind, plus the more disciplined school system would challenge them more academically," Keisha explained. "My stepchildren also live there; we wanted everyone to grow up together."

She had no idea that her son Ibrahim would change the trajectory of her career path. Noticing developmental delays with milestones, such as sitting up or babbling, his doctor recommended that he be evaluated. Ibrahim was about 2 years old, and Keisha was close to her graduation from SJC, when her son was diagnosed with autism.

"His diagnosis hit me very hard, and truthfully, I was in denial and felt like it was my fault — that I did something wrong," she said.

Instead of returning to Africa with her husband and family, Keisha made the difficult decision to remain in America, which she believed was the best option for Ibrahim.

"He is nonverbal with a lot of sensory issues, and there are not a lot of services in Ghana," Keisha said. "You have to pay out of pocket for them."

Despite going through the stages of denial after Ibrahim's diagnosis, Keisha persevered and found the inner strength to help others going through the same situation. Her ability to recognize the emotional toll paid by parents of autistic children

began to open new doors for her.

"I easily became confused and overwhelmed, and wanted to make the process less daunting for others," she said. "Most parents, including myself, find it hard to accept the diagnosis, but I began to recognize the signs in so many children and thought that more awareness was needed."

Keisha began hosting workshops and presentations anywhere she could speak — police stations, health fairs, family gatherings, clubs, churches, etc. Her workshops are centered on parents knowing the signs and symptoms of children that can potentially be diagnosed with autism.

"My initial workshop was done with a representative from Autism Speaks," she said. "I learned along the way and did extensive research concerning what we should look for and what parents want to know." Autism Speaks is an advocacy organization that sponsors autism research and conducts awareness and outreach activities aimed at families, governments and the public.

With a Master of Public Administration and a nonprofit organization leadership certificate, Keisha founded United Communities Autism Network (U-CAN) with help from the Brooklyn Legal Aid Society. U-CAN is incorporated, and Keisha is working to achieve 501(c)(3) status, which allows for federal tax exemption of nonprofit organizations.

She also began providing free workshops and presentations on the signs and symptoms of autism spectrum disorders in underserved communities for parents, caregivers and many others. Keisha created the website [www.unitedcan.org](http://www.unitedcan.org) which helps people find services near their area.

"This is truly my calling, as I believe in bringing relief to one parent and help to one child," she said.

In January 2013 she began pursuing a Ph.D. in Public Health, and soon after joined United Cerebral Palsy of New York as its director of residential services.

To better accommodate her son's needs, Keisha changed positions in December and began working as a family coordinator for the Brooklyn Early Childhood Direction Center. Her job again entails helping families that suspect a loved one may have a developmental disability, linking them to available services and guiding them through the process.

"Juggling a full-time job, my nonprofit and parenting an autistic child is not easy," she said. "I make it work the best I can. Some days are better than others, and I breathe a lot."

Ibrahim is now 5 ½ years old and making great progress every day. Although he is still nonverbal, his understanding is coming along well. Keisha hopes to complete her Ph.D. program in 2016, and to be reunited with her family soon. ■



# The MIGHT of MYTHOS

By David Henne • [dhenne@sjcny.edu](mailto:dhenne@sjcny.edu)

## Shawn Thorgersen '98, Heather Van Velsor '99, Don Dowdell '11 and the rise of the Theater Kid



**T**heater kids. For generations, they've lived among us as quirky high school and college students. Driven by their love of the arts and supported by their tight-knit community, theater kids subscribe to the highest order of expression: being themselves.

But what becomes of a theater kid when he or she grows into a theater adult?

Well, just take a look at these three grown theater kids in the photo above. Theater adults are just as happy, free spirited and content as their younger versions. As for these three theater adults, they get to spend their time sharing their talents to eager audiences across Long Island and beyond — with a little help from their puppet companions.

Much like the equally expressive liberal arts student, theater kids Shawn Thorgersen '98 and Heather Van Velsor '99 graduated from St. Joseph's with an open pathway to realize their futures. Bearing degrees in English/education and speech, respectively, the two moved from St. Joseph's like sponges absorbing cultures, careers and lifestyles.

Thorgersen worked as a teacher in Longwood Public

Schools in Middle Island, New York, then completed his M.F.A. at Southampton College and moved to Denver before returning to the East Coast. Van Velsor relocated to New Jersey to work in the education department at the McCarter Theatre Center for the Performing Arts in Princeton before moving back to New York and working as a teaching artist.

It took nearly a decade of self-discovery before the two found themselves reunited under that all-too-familiar foundation of the stage. (Oh, and along the way, Heather and Shawn began dating and were married in 2007.)

"I was working for a theater company," Van Velsor says, of reuniting with Thorgersen. "One of the tasks they put me on was to reach out to local high school teachers to find out what curriculum they were studying so we could pick our season appropriately. I knew Shawn was an English teacher at Longwood. My friend told me when he was back in town. I think she had ulterior motives too."

Collaborating under the umbrella of Van Velsor's ThinkBig! Theater Arts — a multidisciplinary theater arts company offering community and school programs, as well as performances for young audiences and families — the couple went to work building shows, providing workshops in local schools and helping other theaters grow.

Though it wasn't until this year that ThinkBig! generated its own production.

After a year of rewrites, workshops and revisions, Van Velsor and Thorgersen's first original show, *Mythos*, was accepted into the prestigious 2014 New York Children's Theater Festival.

"Michael Shawn Lewis, a Broadway producer, gave us some notes on the characters," Thorgersen says. "In May we crawled into this terrific off-Broadway theater, The Marjorie S. Deane Little Theater. And we put on quite a show."

After wowing audiences and fellow production companies during their New York performance, *Mythos* was even invited to open later this year at the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

Drawing from four myths from Ovid's *Metamorphoses*, *Mythos* joins the stories of Pandora, Daedalus and Icarus, Arachne, and Baucis and Philemon. Participating in stories featuring hand-crafted shadow, hand-and-rod, papier-mache





Robert Anisler

Don Dowdell '11, Shawn Thorgersen '98 and Heather Van Velsor '99

and marionette puppets, *Mythos*' characters teach how to behave with wisdom and kindness, while engaging the imaginations of family audiences.

In fact, a major factor in building *Mythos* was that touchstone of family — something Van Velsor and Thorgersen are extremely passionate about, especially when it comes to their Long Island roots.

"I had [*Mythos*]' first production meeting with the [off-Broadway producers]," Van Velsor says. "They were giving me a list of casting companies and production companies and puppet builders all from the city, and I said 'That's great, and your lists are resourceful, but this is going to be all Long Island.' This is going to be Long Island actors, stage management, lighting designers, sound designers."

That concept of family also led to the participation of Van Velsor's longtime friend, Don Dowdell '11, who just happens to be an SJC alum as well. Dowdell, a product of the CM Performing Arts Center in Oakdale, who earned his child study degree at SJC in 2011, now works as a substitute teacher while earning a master's degree in literacy. A marionette specialist, Dowdell reiterated just how refreshing the Long Island theater family was in getting *Mythos* and ThinkBig!'s future off the ground.

"We received great support from the community as a whole," Dowdell says. "Working with the different theaters on

the island who gave us space, time, resources, staff, materials. It was amazing how much everybody reached out ... it's just such a collaborative effort."

The Long Island-strong team was thrilled to promote Long Island theaters and their hardworking workers. Especially on the big Manhattan stage during their *Mythos* debut.

"It was fabulous to take what Long Island has to offer," Van Velsor says, "and bring it to the city for a little bit and say, 'Now you know we exist! We're doing really good things out here, you should see what's out here as well.'"

An inviting, open-door policy to include all interested minds willing to work and learn together — the credo of the theater kid.

"There's room for everyone here," Van Velsor says. "Even if you're not a performer, even if you're an educator, even if you have an idea and you don't know how to get it off the ground. Keeping the arts alive in a different way. You see something and you want to figure out how to make it happen."

"[ThinkBig!] was a dream, and now it's becoming a business," Thorgersen says. "And we're in development for a second show. And we're looking to grow and grow."

And Van Velsor, Thorgersen and Dowdell are making it happen. Inspiring more creativity and originality wherever they perform and collaborate, and generating a new generation of smiling, free-spirited theater kids in the process. ■



# PHILANTHROPY ON ICE



## Adam Sherlip '07 and The Hockey Foundation open new doors for the people of India

By Brian Sutch • [bsutch@sjcny.edu](mailto:bsutch@sjcny.edu)



An idealistic young coach from New York travels halfway around the globe to lead a ragtag hockey team in the tournament of their lives. No, it's not the latest inspirational sports movie from Disney, but maybe one day we will see the based-on-a-true-story account of Adam Sherlip '07 on the big screen.



In 2009, at only 25 years old, the Long Island Campus graduate found himself behind the bench for the Indian men's national ice hockey team as it competed at the International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) Challenge Cup of Asia tournament in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

Born in Brooklyn and raised in Suffolk County, Sherlip (son of Associate Professor of Psychology Diane Sherlip, Ph.D.) had played street hockey since he was five or six, and later advanced to ice hockey, playing on the JV squad for Hauppauge High School, as well as a local travel team. His varsity career was short lived, however, as he suffered a severe back injury that would keep him off the ice for several years. Later, as a student at St. Joseph's College, he would earn an internship with the New York Islanders.

"While walking the halls of St. Joe's, I noticed a flier for internships with the Islanders," Sherlip explains. "I grew up a rabid Islanders fan, and so I ripped the flier off the wall to prevent anyone else from applying for the position."

The club later hired him as an employee for Project Hope, a nonprofit initiative aimed at enrolling Chinese scholar-athletes in Islanders-affiliated youth hockey programs in northern China. Sherlip coached youth hockey in China for the program in 2007, and later — through connections with Project Hope's director, former Olympic ice hockey gold medalist Angela Ruggiero — he made the first of five trips to India in 2009. After linking up with the Ice Hockey Association of India, he volunteered as a scout and became the first head coach in the men's national team's history.

India's first foray into the Challenge Cup in 2009 wasn't exactly a Cinderella story. The team went 0-3 and was outscored 33-1 in those three games.

"India is not a traditional hockey market," Sherlip says. "When you mention hockey to almost any Indian, they think it refers to field hockey, which is technically the national sport of India, even though they care much more about cricket. When you correct them and say 'ice hockey,' most Indians are completely ignorant to the fact that it's even played in their country."

The sport does have some roots in India, particularly in the northern region of Ladakh, where Sherlip first scouted players for the national team. "Ice hockey was played by the British dating back to the early 20th century in the hill station town Shimla, which is in the foothills of the Himalayas, and was the place the British Raj leaders escaped to when Delhi got too hot in the summer," he says.

"I've coached there for a few years, and it's a beautiful, unique town. Ice hockey was only introduced to Ladakh

about 30 years ago by the Indian military as a way to stay active and fit in the harsh winters in that high altitude desert. ... Ladakhis hibernate in the winter. School is closed, many businesses shut, and there are no crops to harvest, so hockey became the de facto winter activity (other than trekking and mountaineering for tourists)."

Sherlip faced many hurdles early on — including severe sickness, a lack of hot showers and indoor heating, and getting bitten by a dog — but culture shock was probably the toughest to overcome. "The language barrier is the most obvious challenge," he says. "The cultural differences are equal parts frustrating, enlightening and annoying. The fact that there is no 'hockey culture' (an understanding of the game even if you don't play it) in means that I've had to help establish that baseline requirement, while training them in a way they've never trained before.

"They were playing their own version of ice hockey, which ignored most rules and prevented them from being as effective as they could be on the ice. In short, they needed to learn how to play as a team."

After his first trip, Sherlip used his experiences to formally establish The Hockey Foundation, a nonprofit that uses ice hockey to empower youth, support community development and foster international understanding and cooperation. The pilot program has been operating in Ladakh since 2010. Since then, The Hockey Foundation has donated more than 1,000 pieces of equipment throughout the region, and coached more than 1,000 kids and adults of varying skill levels on how to skate and play the game. It has also contributed books and English classes to a few schools in Ladakh, as well as a portable solar power generator.

Sherlip would return as head coach for the 2012 IIHF Challenge Cup of Asia, and on March 21 of that year — his 28th birthday — the team earned the first victory in its brief history. He also led India in the 2013 and 2014 tournaments. Though wins have been hard to come by, the team has shown progress in recent years. Now at age 30, Sherlip is still considering whether to return for 2015.

"Coaching Team India is obviously a challenge," he says. "But it's a great honor nonetheless and a challenge I try to make the most of."

Sherlip still credits St. Joseph's for setting him on the course for future success.

"SJC gave me freedom to figure out who I was and who I wanted to be," he says. "I took courses that allowed my mind to grow in many directions, and build confidence to pursue my dreams." ■





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## SJC Introduces New Job Shadow Program



**Melissa Nocco '15**, a criminal justice major student interested in law enforcement, shadows **Delilah Ortega '10** at the New York City Department of Correction.

Job shadowing allows students to spend a few hours or a day with a professional that currently works in a career field in which the student has an interest. The Job Shadow Program at St. Joseph's College debuted last winter and connected students with our extensive alumni network.

To participate, current students filled out a short application — designed in conjunction with the Office of Career Development — and participated in an interview with Assistant Director of Career Development Jennifer Rooney '04 to gauge their career area(s) of interest (students could indicate up to three areas).

Once the interview was completed, it was up to the Office of Alumni Engagement to seek out and invite alumni to participate. Students were then matched with an alumnus or other friend of the College.

The list of career areas ranged from health care to accounting to speech

pathology to clinical psychology, just to name a few. Alumni were recruited from an ongoing list of volunteers that participate in activities and programs such as the Alumni Mentoring Program, and also by using the popular professional site LinkedIn to connect with new alumni.

Our first class included 25 student participants and 13 alumni. Many students were placed in January, and therefore could conduct the shadow during intersession, while others had the opportunity to shadow at any given time during the spring semester.

This fall, we will invite a new group of students to apply for the Job Shadow Program and look forward to engaging new alumni to participate. If you are an alumnus and would like to get involved in our Job Shadow Program, please contact Director of Alumni Engagement Paige Napoli Carbone '02 at 631.687.2653 or pcarbone@sjcnj.edu. ■

"When I heard about the Job Shadow Program, I was very excited by the prospect of going outside my comfort zone to experience other possibilities that I was interested in."

— Ahkash Persaud '16, psychology major, matched with Kenneth Roche '03



## Class Notes

### Brooklyn

#### 1950s

**Nettie Rementeria McKenna '54** regrets to announce that her husband of 57 years, Jeremiah B. McKenna, passed away on March 18, following a long illness.

**Barbara Lediger Carroll '58** held a one-woman exhibit of her handmade quilts in March in the Board Room Gallery on the College's Long Island Campus. The exhibit, "Sew Beautiful: Art Quilts by Barbara Carroll," was part of the College's Council for the Arts program.

#### 1960s

On March 24, Class of 1962 graduates **Mary Gallagher Alban, Cathy Davis McKeon, Stephanie Becht Carty** and **Maureen Coonan Brolly**, along with their husbands, met for lunch in Princeton, New Jersey. It was the first time in six years that they were all together. The Albans, now living in Virginia, were visiting family in New Jersey. The McKeons came from their home in Pennsylvania and the Brollys came from New York with the Cartys. It was a lovely opportunity to create more warm memories within treasured friendships.

**Christina McCullagh Cronin '65** celebrated the wedding of her daughter, Deirdre, in August 2013. The ceremony was held at Church St. Barnabas in Yonkers, with the reception at the Bronx Zoo. In attendance at the wedding were 1965 classmates, **Margaret McCartney Leder, Barbara Sekula Waldron, Maryann Finnerty Zacchea** and **Margaret Morrow Becht**.

**Magalay Lopez Lohnes '66** is sad to report that her husband of 44 years, Robert C. Lohnes, passed away on March 15 while awaiting a bone marrow transplant. In May, his family and friends took part in a 5K fundraiser at Roosevelt Island for the Icla da Silva Foundation, to raise money for transplants.

**Barbara Vaskis Crapa '67** has two grandsons: Baird, 14, and Sebastian, 12.

**Annette De Salvo Boyle '68** has been living in Bermuda for 35 years and does not miss New York at all — especially the snow. She retired from teaching in June 2013 after 32 years, but she is now tutoring seven students in English and math on the middle school level, and teaching CCD at her parish church. Annette encourages her 1968 classmates to look her up if they ever visit Bermuda.

**Eileen Luongo O'Donnell '69** has retired after 40 years of dedicated service to the children and parents of the Dillon Child Study Center. Eileen began at the Dillon Center immediately after her graduation from St. Joseph's College, and has been an integral part of that special place ever since.

#### 1970s

**Margaret M. Dwyer Minson '70, Ed.D.**, has been appointed president of Brooklyn's Bishop Kearney High School. She served as SJC's director of alumni relations from 1990 to 2000 and vice president for institutional advancement from 2000 to 2002.

**Frances Caruso Ruggiero Pasquel '70** retired from Yonkers Public Schools and from her executive vice president position in the Yonkers Federation of Teachers. She was married in October 2013 to Tom Pasquel, and took a honeymoon cruise to the eastern Caribbean, where the couple swam with dolphins. She is a proud grandmother of four: Troy, Cole, Gabrielle and Iliana.

**Elaine Thoelen Mastrapasqua '71** retired from the YMCA in December 2012. Last summer, she and her husband, Stephen, spent two weeks in Alaska, where they enjoyed a cruise and travel by domed railcar. Their most memorable moments were catching a salmon, seeing the Mendenhall Glacier and eating reindeer sausage. Last September, the couple celebrated their 35th anniversary while on a cruise from New York City to Halifax, Nova Scotia. While docked in



# Home for the Holidays

**December 5, 2014**

6 p.m.,

Brooklyn Campus

**December 6, 2014**

10 a.m.

Long Island Campus

**For more information:**

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Boston, they arranged to meet a priest formerly from their Saratoga parish, who performed an anniversary ceremony and again blessed their wedding rings.

After retiring from federal government employment in 2006, **Vicky Castagna '74** took her first semester off from teaching at the University of Scranton. She continues to volunteer as an emergency medical technician and a crisis counselor, and she cherishes every minute of it.

After a 13-year career with the dioceses of Brooklyn and Rockville Centre, **Susan Schlipf Peo '74** has been teaching in the Levittown (New York) School District for the past 18 years and sits on the Committee for Preschool Special Education. Happily married for 32 years, she and her husband, Billy, travel and cruise as often as they can. Their two adult sons, Ian and Brendan, live nearby, and Brendan recently earned a master's degree in special education.

**Zana Bailey Russell '79** has retired and lives in New York, but spends winter months in Florida. Her daughter, Heather, is a married lawyer and has two children, Nyah and Christian Loux. Zana's son, Wayne, works for Delta and has a wonderful son, Osiris Russell-Delano.

### 1980s

**Donna Corrado '82** was appointed commissioner of the New York City



Robert Napolitano

The Brooklyn Campus' annual leadership lunch was held on April 26 at Terrace on the Park in Queens. **Tricia Gaya '14** (second from left) was one of many students to be honored for her campus involvement and leadership at SJC. She is pictured with Manager of Reunion Giving **Samantha Saines Ryan '06**, Trustee **Steve Somers '82** and Associate Vice President of Alumni Engagement and Stewardship **Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69**.

Department for the Aging by Mayor Bill de Blasio in February. She previously served as executive director of Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services Inc.

### 1990s

**Kelly Nugent Ferraro '98** has joined Rubenstein Public Relations in New York as a vice president.

### 2000s

**Jahangir Kabir, E.M.B.A. '05**, is a direct supervisor for White Castle, and is currently pursuing a doctoral degree at Wilmington University. Jahangir recently received the 2014 Faces of Diversity Award from the National Restaurant Association.

**Christina Traverson Mace '06** and her husband, **Daniel Mace '03**, welcomed their first child, Julia Anne Mace, in July 2013. Christina took a year off from work to spend time with her daughter, and it has been one of the best years of her life. She recently received a professional teaching certificate to work with students with speech and language disabilities, and continues to

take classes to keep herself up to date in the field of speech language pathology.

**Anthony Leone '05** and **Taylor Orfino-Leone '07** were married on August 24, 2013.

### 2010s

**Elizabeth Flack '10, M.A. '12** and **John Attard '10**, were engaged on January 24, 2014.

## Long Island

### 1980s

**Dorothy Stahlman Ahl '83** is in her 15th year as a school psychologist for the Massapequa School District. She previously spent 14 years as a special education teacher in Deer Park and Massapequa schools. Dorothy and her husband, Jim, will be celebrating their 30th wedding anniversary with a trip to the wine country in Napa and Sonoma in California. Their daughter, Patricia, works as a librarian in Rhode Island, and their son, Brandon, is entering his senior year at the University of Rhode Island, majoring

## Tell Us Your Story

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# ALUMNI FALL LUNCHEON



## 3 West Club

3 West 51st Street  
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**Saturday, October 18, 2014**

**Committee**  
Donna Parks '70  
Mary Buckley Teatum '73

For more information, contact the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Engagement at 718.940.5576 or [alumni@sjcnyc.edu](mailto:alumni@sjcnyc.edu).





The Long Island Campus hosted its second annual Alumni Achievement Awards in Health Care and Human Services on June 19. Pictured are Nursing Director **Florence Jordan, Ph.D.**; honorees **Mary Jean McKeveny '08**, **Barbara Carlstrom** and **Valerie Cartright**, Long Island Campus Executive **Dean Christopher Frost, Ph.D.**; Community Health and Human Services Chair **Carolyn Gallogly, Ph.D.**; honoree **William Leonelli, M.S. '12**; lecturer **Jo Anne Collins Durovich, Ph.D.**; honorees **Patricia Boyce '07** and **Susan Somerville '90**; and Health Administration Associate Chair **John Sardelis, Dr.PH.**

in physics and math. The couple has lived in Lindenhurst, New York, for 26 years.

Nassau County Clerk **Maureen Ryan O'Connell '84** was honored by the Long Island Center for Business and Professional Women at its annual Achievers' Award Gala in May.

### 1990s

**Janine Stange '99** is on a nationwide quest to sing "The Star-Spangled Banner" in all 50 states by September 14, 2014 — the national anthem's 200th anniversary.

**Frank Vino '99**, a counselor in the Suffolk County Community College Office of Campus Activities and Student Leadership Development, received the Professional Excellence Award from the Long Island College Student Personnel Association (LICSPA) at its February 7 conference at Adelphi University.

### 2000s

**Paige Napoli Carbone '02**, SJC's director of alumni engagement, was selected by the Fair Media Council to participate in

a leadership panel at the 2014 Women's Empowerment Summit on May 16.

Congratulations to **Ann Eckardt Erlanger '05**, who welcomed twin boys — Aaron and Ryan — on January 11.

**Peter Carney '06** and **Karen Lyons Carney '09, M.A. '11**, were married on September 21, 2013, at St. Anthony of Padua Parish in East Northport, New York. The celebration continued with a reception at Great South Bay Brewery in Bay Shore. The couple currently reside in East Islip.

**Alyson Terwilliger '06** was honored at the Huntington Chamber of Commerce's Celebrate Young Professionals event in May.

**Kristin Cullen '07** married Tommy Warsaw in July in Berkeley, California. Kristin teaches high school English in nearby Fairfield.

**Alison Raffetto '07** was promoted to sales and service manager of the Williston Park, New York, branch of

TD Bank. She is responsible for new business development, consumer and business lending, managing personnel and overseeing the day-to-day operations of the branch.

**DawnMarie Kuhn '09** was honored at the Huntington Chamber of Commerce's Celebrate Young Professionals event in May.

### 2010s

**Mary Buckingham '12** is a co-author of two peer reviewed articles: "Important Non-parental Adults and Positive Youth Development Across Mid- to Late-Adolescence: The Moderating Effect of Parenting Profiles," and "Hope in Context: Developmental Profiles of Trust, Hopeful Future Expectations, and Civic Engagement Across Adolescence."

**Thomas Kelly '13** received the Psi Chi Eastern Regional Research Award, presented by Eastern Psychological Association, for his thesis "Understanding Success: The Relationship Between Grit and Subjective Well-Being." ■



## In Memoriam

### Alumni

Clare R. O'Connor '33  
Frances Oliveri Baicich '37  
Elisabeth Bressi '39  
Florence Ryan Dias '42  
Marian Harvey Higgins '46  
Grace Devoy Lee '47  
Marie C. Gribbin '48  
Elfriede Kast Fanning '49  
Georgette A. Bomer Brown '50  
Gloria Lopez Bruschini '51  
Mary J. Keenan Shannon '51  
Mary E. Farrell Young '58  
Mary Lou Fitzgerald Cain '60  
Henrietta Salpietro '61  
Regina J. Foley Edwards '62  
Claudette A. Townsend '66  
Maureen Quinn Scherer '68  
Ann Pearson Tarzia '84  
Sheila Heffernan Axon '95

### Friends and Family

Paul Ciesla, son of  
Marietta Trinneer Ciesla '62  
and nephew of Suzanne  
Trinneer Drumm '59  
William Garrett Dillon, husband of  
Margaret Pyle Dillon '47  
Marie DiSarno, mother of  
Adrienne DiSarno Jentz '69 and  
Marianne DiSarno Fahey '72  
Robert Fanning, husband of  
Elfriede Kast Fanning '49  
Phyllis Grygalin Panchok, mother of  
Frances Berry Panchok '68  
Michael Guinan, brother of  
Joan Guinan Lunney '59  
Robert Lohnes, husband of  
Magaly Lopez-Lohnes '66  
Robert P. Mastondrea, husband of  
Virginia Humes Mastondrea '64

Jeremiah B. McKenna, husband of  
Nettie Rementeria McKenna '54  
Rudolph Morawek, husband of  
Graceann Vento Morawek '61  
Walter Nelson, husband of Mary  
Theresa Moringiello Nelson '76  
and father of Pia Nelson '07  
Joseph Norris, father of  
Margaret Norris Broda '04,  
Catherine Norris '09 and  
Lauren Norris '11  
Lynn Riviere, husband of  
Marie Marciano '63  
Anthony Charles Rocca, brother of  
Marie Rocca Arvay '69  
Nicholas Spilotro, husband of  
Mary Pometto Spilotro '64

## Memorial Mass

The St. Joseph's College Alumni Association will celebrate our annual Memorial Mass  
for deceased alumni, faculty and friends of St. Joseph's.

Kennedy Chapel • Burns Hall • 245 Clinton Avenue • Brooklyn, NY 11205

*Saturday, November 1, at 11 a.m.*

followed by lunch in the Parlors

RSVP by October 24 to 718.940.5576.

You can also email your response to the Brooklyn Office of Alumni Engagement at [alumni@sjcny.edu](mailto:alumni@sjcny.edu).

*Wishing you strength, peace and good health in your daily life.*



## A Family Legacy



Nearly six decades after **Frances Fumo Chionchio '55** graduated from St. Joseph's College for Women, two of her granddaughters, **Michelle Chionchio '14** and Brooklyn Campus valedictorian **Ginette Illuzzi '14**, continued their family's legacy at SJC. They are both third-generation alumnae — the ninth and 10th members of their family to graduate from St. Joseph's.

Michelle was hooded by her parents, **Dr. Francis Chionchio '86** and **Josephine Gallo Chionchio '85**, at the May 23 commencement ceremony at the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge, while Ginette was hooded by her mother, **Gina Chionchio Illuzzi '83**, and her grandmother.

Pictured are Dr. Francis Chionchio '86; Josephine Gallo Chionchio '85; Michelle Chionchio '14; valedictorian Ginette Illuzzi '14; former President **S. Elizabeth A. Hill '64, C.S.J.**; Frances Fumo Chionchio '55; and Gina Chionchio Illuzzi '83.

Other family alumni include Frances' daughters **Gerardette Chionchio Stancato '79**, **Lisa Chionchio Gallo '81** and **Laura Chionchio Orlando '94**; and sister **Rita Fumo Sweeney '58**. Lisa's daughter, **Gabrielle Gallo**, will graduate in 2016, and her son, **Jonathan Gallo**, will be a member of the Class of 2018.

## The Chionchio Family Tree

- |                                      |                                  |                           |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Frances Fumo Chionchio '55        | 5. Gina Chionchio Illuzzi '83    | 9. Michelle Chionchio '14 |
| 2. Rita Fumo Sweeney '58             | 6. Josephine Gallo Chionchio '85 | 10. Ginette Illuzzi '14   |
| 3. Gerardette Chionchio Stancato '79 | 7. Dr. Francis Chionchio '86     | 11. Gabrielle Gallo '16   |
| 4. Lisa Chionchio Gallo '81          | 8. Laura Chionchio Orlando '94   | 12. Jonathan Gallo '18    |



## STAY CONNECTED!

To learn more about alumni activities,  
serve at an alumni event, reach your class news agent  
or to update your records, contact us in the  
Office of Alumni Engagement:

### **Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69**

Associate Vice President of Alumni  
Engagement and Stewardship  
245 Clinton Avenue • Brooklyn, NY 11205  
718.940.5574

### **Paige Napoli Carbone '02**

Director of Alumni Engagement  
1 Terry Street, Suite 2 • Patchogue, NY 11772  
631.687.2653

**Email us at [alumni@sjcny.edu](mailto:alumni@sjcny.edu) or visit us  
at [www.sjcny.edu/alumni](http://www.sjcny.edu/alumni).**



Mallory Arroyo '14 received the Alumni Award at the Brooklyn Campus' Senior Night on May 9. She is pictured with Associate Vice President of Alumni Engagement and Stewardship Mary Jo Burke Chiara '69, and her parents, Joseph Arroyo '82 and Kathleen Woods Arroyo '82.

## AND THE 2014 INDUCTEES ARE ...



### Seventh Annual Induction Ceremony and Reception

## GOLDEN EAGLES HALL OF FAME 2014 INDUCTEES

Kristin Bihary Lievre '03  
Jennifer DeGennaro Iuorio '95  
Bryan Knipping '06  
2008 Women's Softball Team  
2008 Men's Cross-Country Team


Please join us in celebrating their  
accomplishments at the  
Golden Eagles Hall of Fame  
award ceremony and reception.

**SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2014**

McGann Conference Center  
Long Island Campus

For more information, contact Director of  
Alumni Relations Paige Napoli Carbone '02  
at 631.687.2653 or [pcarbone@sjcny.edu](mailto:pcarbone@sjcny.edu).





*President Jack P. Calareso, Ph.D.,  
and Mrs. Rose Calareso*

Invite the entire SJC community  
to attend an

## *Inaugural Mass*

In gratitude to the Sisters of St. Joseph for a century of leadership at our College

*Sunday, October 5, 2014*  
*11 a.m.*

**Sacred Heart Chapel**  
on the grounds of the Sisters of St. Joseph convent  
1725 Brentwood Road  
Brentwood, NY 11717

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**Reception to follow.**

Students, parents, faculty, staff, alumni and friends are most welcome.

**For more information, please call:**

Rosemarie Lewinger: 718.940.5580  
Carrie Graf-Behlen: 631.687.2655





# The Hall is Calling

Nominations are now being  
accepted for the inaugural class  
of the Brooklyn Athletic Hall of  
Fame in the following categories:

**Athlete**

**Coach  
(former or retired)**

**Team**

**Distinguished Contributor**

The nomination process is open  
to the entire SJC community.  
The deadline for completed  
forms is December 8, 2014.

To learn more about the Brooklyn Athletic  
Hall of Fame, call 718.940.5566.

Robert Napolitano



Director of Alumni Engagement **Paige Napoli Carbone '02** presents the Alumni Leadership Award to **Melissa Henn Michaud '01** at the Long Island Campus' annual Student Government Association Leadership Brunch on May 3 at Land's End in Sayville. Melissa is a manager for Hudson City Savings Bank, and the treasurer of the Long Island Alumni Association.

Robert Napolitano



The Long Island Student Government Association presented **Kevin Deutsche '14** with the Future Alumni Leadership Award at its annual Leadership Brunch on May 3. The award is given annually to a graduating senior judged to be "a leader among leaders." Kevin is pictured with Director of Alumni Engagement **Paige Napoli Carbone '02**.





# Spring Reunion Weekend

May 1-4, 2014



[ Visit [magazine.sjcny.edu](http://magazine.sjcny.edu) for more photos from recent alumni events. ]

Robert Amsler



*Joanna Venezia Zinno '39*

Robert Amsler



*The Class of 2004*

Robert Amsler



*The classes of 1984 and 1989*

Robert Amsler



*The classes of 1994 and 1999*

Robert Amsler



*The Class of 1959*





*The Class of 1974*



*The Class of 1979*



*The Class of 1989*



*The Class of 1969*



*The Class of 1964*



# EVENTS CALENDAR

Fall/Winter 2014-2015

Office of Alumni Engagement  
Brooklyn: 718.940.5576 / Long Island: 631.687.2651

Office of Special Events: 631.687.2655

For a complete listing of events, visit [www.sjcny.edu](http://www.sjcny.edu)

## SEPTEMBER

### **26-28 Alumni & Family Weekend (Long Island Campus)**

Visit [www.sjcny.edu/alumniweekend](http://www.sjcny.edu/alumniweekend)  
for a listing of events.

### **28 Golden Eagles Athletic Hall of Fame**

10 a.m. Mass and blessing of the athletes

11 a.m. ceremony and brunch

Long Island Campus

## OCTOBER

### **5 Inaugural Mass**

11 a.m. at Sacred Heart Chapel, Brentwood

All students, faculty, staff and alumni are welcome.

### **11 Make a Difference Day**

Alumni volunteer events

### **18 Alumni Fall Luncheon**

Noon at 3 West Club, Manhattan

### **24 HR and Diversity Conference**

"Accelerating in an Era of Economic Change  
and Uncertainty"

Long Island Campus

### **26 Open House**

Brooklyn Campus

### **29 Alumni & Friends Networking Social**

6:30 p.m. at the Long Island Campus

## NOVEMBER

### **1 Alumni Memorial Mass**

11 a.m. at Kennedy Chapel

Followed by lunch in the Parlors, Brooklyn Campus

### **2 Open House**

Long Island Campus

### **7 32nd Annual Scholarship Gala**

6:30 p.m. at Crest Hollow Country Club, Woodbury

### **18 Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Alumni Career Panel**

6:30 p.m., at the Long Island Campus

### **19 Alumni Night — Inaugural basketball game at the Hill Center**

6 p.m. at the Brooklyn Campus

## DECEMBER

### **5 Home for the Holidays: Alumni & Family Christmas Party**

6 p.m. in the Parlors, Brooklyn Campus



**6 Home for the Holidays:  
Breakfast With Santa**  
10 a.m. at the Long Island Campus

**18 East vs. West Game**  
Brooklyn Campus

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## JANUARY

**5-20 January Job Shadow Program**

**31 Alumni Hoops Night**  
Brooklyn Campus

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## FEBRUARY

**24-28 Florida Alumni Receptions**

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## MARCH

**7-21 Mind, Body, Spirit Wellness Series**  
Long Island Campus

**17 St. Patrick's Day Celebration**  
10 a.m. breakfast at Connolly's Restaurant,  
Manhattan; 12:40 p.m., New York City  
St. Patrick's Day Parade

**TBD Dr. Reza and Georgianna Clifford  
Khatib Chair in Comparative  
Religion 7th Annual Lectures**  
Brooklyn and Long Island Campus

# TRAVEL IN 2015

**Pilgrimage to the Holy Land**  
January 8-17, 2015



**The Shrines of Italy**  
May 12-21, 2015



Travel with St. Joseph's College faculty members  
S. Grace Rowland, C.S.J., and the  
Rev. Francis Pizzarelli, S.M.M.

For a detailed brochure, contact S. Grace  
at 631.654.0199 or [growland@sjcny.edu](mailto:growland@sjcny.edu).

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**Explore Morocco**  
April 1-11, 2015



For more information, contact Susan Smith '73  
at 212.982.4229 or [smsmeg@aol.com](mailto:smsmeg@aol.com).





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Brooklyn, NY 11205

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PAID  
St. Joseph's  
College, NY

The Board of Trustees of St. Joseph's College cordially invite you to the

## *32nd Annual Scholarship Gala*

An Evening to Welcome

*Jack P. Calareso, Ph.D.*

Seventh President of St. Joseph's College

and

*Mrs. Rose Calareso*

**Friday, November 7, 2014**

The Crest Hollow Country Club  
Woodbury, New York



Proceeds from the Gala will be used to establish The Rose and Jack Calareso Community Service Scholarship, which will be awarded to a current or incoming St. Joseph's College student who has displayed extraordinary commitment to his or her community.

For more information, visit [www.sjcny.edu/dinnerdance](http://www.sjcny.edu/dinnerdance).